

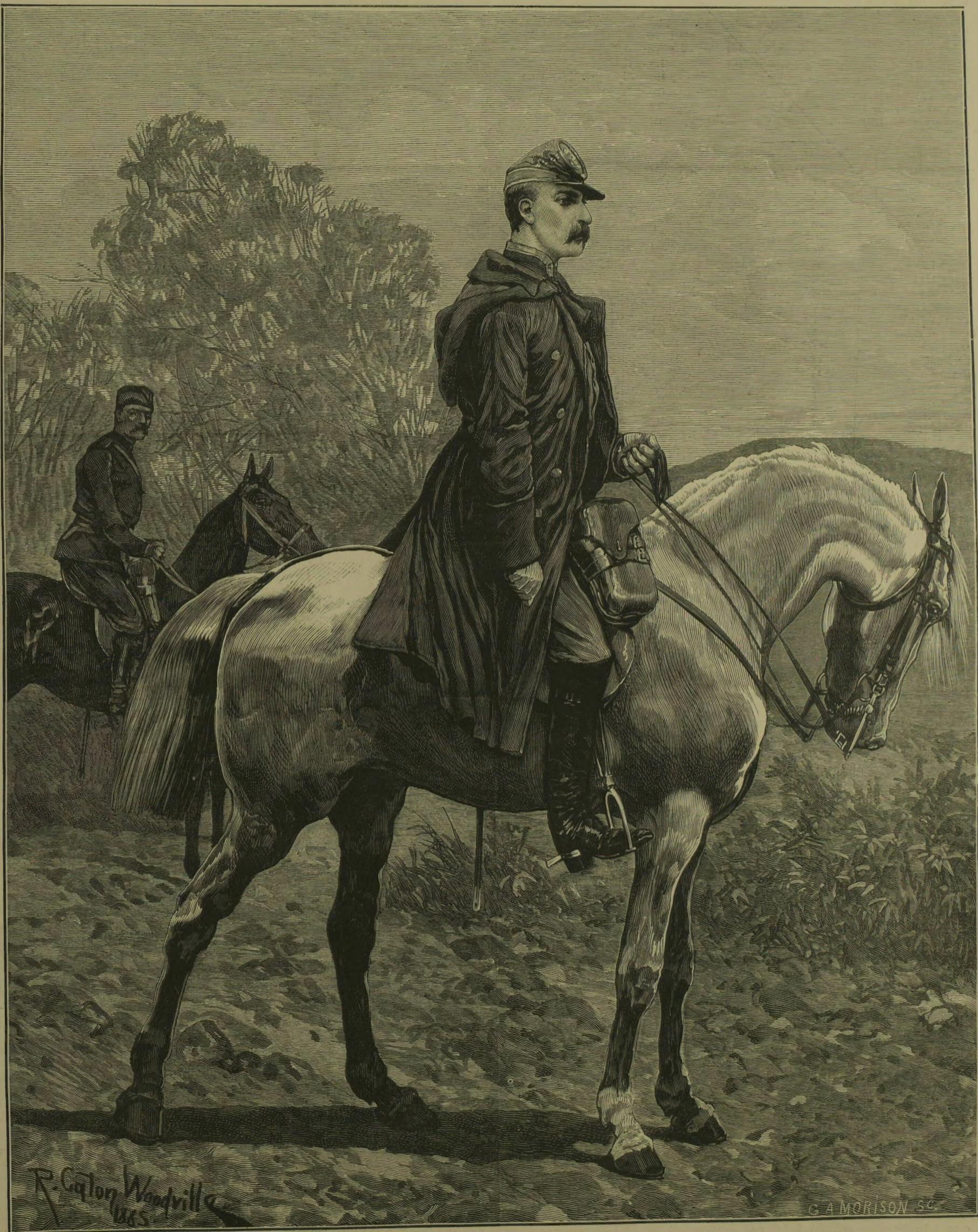
THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

REGISTERED AT THE GENERAL POST-OFFICE FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.

No. 2432.—VOL. LXXXVII.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1885.

WITH } SIXPENCE.
EXTRA SUPPLEMENT } BY POST, 6½D.



KING MILAN OF SERVIA.
FROM A SKETCH BY MR. J. SCHONBERG.


 OUR NOTEBOOK

"No good man," said Mark Pattison, "can with impunity addict himself to party." And yet it is hard to see how a politician with earnest convictions can avoid ranging himself upon one side or the other. He may not wholly approve of either; it is impossible he can so approve if he possesses the philosophic temperament, and is able to look before and after. But he will probably consider that, while standing on neutral ground, he can do nothing for his country; that isolation means weakness; and that union, however imperfect, brings with it strength. It is possible to join a party without being a partisan; and the man of large views and generous feeling will believe that his opponents may be as patriotic as himself, and are not necessarily knaves or fools because they disagree with him. Addison, in the *Spectator*, describes the effects of party spirit with a truthfulness that makes the paper as applicable in the present day as it was in 1711. The division of parties was drawn in sharper lines at that period, the language used was more violent, but the feeling was the same then as now; the only difference being that the terms we employ are less scurrilous, and that we kick our opponents more politely.

Addison, by-the-way, with his delightful sense of humour, makes excellent fooling out of the violence of party men. He relates how Sir Roger De Coverley, as a boy, was tossed to and fro between Roundheads and Cavaliers. On asking the way to St. Anne's-lane he was termed a Popish cur for calling Anne a saint; and, on inquiring again for Anne's-lane, he was called a prick-eared cur, and told that she had been a saint before he was born and would be after he was hanged. Sir Roger had his own prejudices, and would not bait at a Whig inn. If by chance the coachman stopped at a wrong place, one of the servants would ride up to his master full speed and whisper to him that the innkeeper was against such a one in the last election. "This," says the *Spectator*, "often betrayed us into hard beds and bad cheer; for we were not so inquisitive about the inn as the innkeeper; and, providing our landlord's principles were sound, did not take any notice of the staleness of his provisions." This sort of self-denial is, we believe, unpractised in the present day by either Radical or Tory.

The difficult problem of living without payment of rent, rates, and taxes, was solved for a while, it appears, in a very ingenious but, one would think, uncomfortable fashion by a certain William Roberts (as he called himself), who was discovered "at home" in the space between the roof and the ceiling of the hall belonging to the West London District Schools, near Staines, and stated that "he had lived there for several years." Mr. Roberts used to lie concealed during the day, and prowl about the rooms at night in search of food, which he seems to have been very successful in finding by means of a dark lantern. An iron ladder fixed to the outside wall served him somehow (one cannot quite tell how) for egress and ingress; and, for his amusement, he had made a hole which enabled him to "see what was going on in the dining-hall beneath," where the occupants, no doubt, played "knife-and-fork" for his entertainment. Sad to relate, Mr. Roberts took no pains to keep his place at all clean; indeed, it was found to be in a condition calculated to horrify a "sanitary inspector." The workhouse or the prison, some people may think, would be preferable to such an abode, with the life it entailed; but self-inflicted imprisonment is liberty compared with other imprisonment, and there is in some natures an invincible repugnance to all manner of work, hard or easy.

In an out-of-the-way part of the east end of London stands a church, not long completed, dedicated to St. Augustine. It is in the very heart of a colony of Jews, many of whom have been converted to Christianity; and now the Incumbent of the church has arranged a regular series of services in the Hebrew language, and, for the first time since the Apostolic ages, the service of Holy Communion, as instituted by the Saviour of the World, is said in the original language of the Bible, and the clergyman who celebrates is himself a converted Rabbi.

An interesting volume, in the possession of the Nesbit-Hamilton family, has a collection of dates written on the first pages which are quite a history. It appears that a large-print prayer-book in 1760, belonging to Lady Robert Manners, was borrowed by Secker, Archbishop of Canterbury (whose sight was failing), for use at the marriage of George III., and also on subsequent occasions. By degrees a superstition arose connected with the use of the book—that it brought happiness to the married couple—and it has been therefore borrowed by the Royal family many times.

We are told that in the present general election upwards of two hundred lawyers (*marchands de paroles*, as our neighbours call them) have offered themselves as candidates for Parliament. If the Act passed in the forty-sixth year of the reign of Edward III. were still in force, the perplexity of the electors might be in some degree lessened. The "English Justinian," as that learned monarch was styled, seemed scarcely to appreciate the advantages of lawyers in Parliament; for, by an Act passed with his full approbation, and, as is supposed by some, at his instigation, it was declared that "no lawyers who solicited suites for other men shall be returned or accepted as knights of the shire; but the King will that knights and serjeants of the best esteem in the county be hereafter returned Knights of Parliament" (46 Ed. III. c. 13).

Our metropolitan prisons are fast disappearing, according to the provisions made for that purpose: Horsemonger-lane and Tothill-fields jails belong to the past; Newgate is little more than a "geographical expression"; and now, says authority, "the turn of the prison at Coldbath-fields and of the House of Detention at Clerkenwell has come." It does not appear, however, though there may be a gratifying diminution in the number of prisons, that much less accommodation than heretofore is required for prisoners: they will only be brought closer together and form larger family parties. This may be an advantage; or—it may not.

Now that Battersea returns a member to the new Parliament, the claims of the neighbouring "Garratt" will, probably, be soon forgotten. Nevertheless, in the last century the "Garratt Election" always attracted attention, though possibly not from politicians. The earliest record of a contest dates from 1747, when there were three candidates—Lord Twankum, Squire Blowmedown (his real name being Willis, a waterman), and Squire Gubbins (one Simmonds, a publican). There was a so-called clerk, who carried the writ from an imaginary Townhall, and a self-styled Recorder who acted as Returning Officer. Each "Mayor of Garratt" conferred upon himself the honour of Knighthood, whilst his constituents seem to have provided him with a gorgeous dress, and a chain and badge of startling proportions. The last recorded election took place in 1796, when Sir George Cooke (greengrocer, of Lambeth), and Sir Harry Dimsdale (a muffin-baker) were the only candidates. Sir Harry was returned, sworn on a brickbat, and crowned with a green bough. The horses were then taken from his carriage by the populace, and he was drawn in triumph to the Bull at East Sheen, where, as related by the *Times* of the day, "above six hundred people sat down to a plentiful dinner."

The author of an exhaustive life of John Bunyan, just published, shows that the practice now known as Boycotting was familiar in the seventeenth century, and exercised by public authority. Excommunication was then in force, and to deal with a person suffering under this ban was to run the risk of citation and fine. You might not sell to a proscribed person; and even courtship was forbidden, for, in 1616, a certain Roger Perriam was cited for keeping company with Margaret Bennet, "who standeth excommunicate." In that year Shakespeare died. Had the large tolerance of England's greatest poet been understood by his contemporaries, the Archdeacon's Courts would not have interfered so unkindly with Roger Perriam's lovemaking.

Last week Mr. "Champion" Roberts once more surpassed the best "record" (his own, of course) at "spot-barred" billiards, and arrived within a measurable distance of Westminster Abbey—that is, within 69 points of 500 at a break: he made 432 "off the balls." This was rough on his opponent, Mr. "Would-be-Champion" T. Taylor, who himself made breaks of a hundred and upwards with a freedom which would have been astonishing under ordinary circumstances.

It really seems too bad that Mr. Thomas Nugent's brother and sister should have been locked up in a lunatic asylum for some seven years, if, as Mr. Nugent asserts, "the only cause for their being considered insane was that they fancied they were related to Royalty." Why, there is a book extant, according to which so many English families are descended from Edward the Third, *par les femmes*, through John of Gaunt and his three wives (especially Katherine Swynford), that it would be wonderful if nearly everybody were not "related to Royalty," just as Dr. Johnson's friend, Mr. Langton, was, as Lord Tennyson is, and as Mr. Bradlaugh himself may be.

The study of Shakespeare and other English classics in America and the Colonies imports an acceptable freshness into the treatment of the subject, but is occasionally attended with curious incidents. It appears, for example, from a report of a recent meeting of the Melbourne Shakespeare Society, that the character of Imogen, which is good enough for Coleridge, for Schlegel, for Hazlitt, for Helen Faucit, for Shakespeare himself, is not good enough for Miss Gill, who, with great delicacy as the reporter says ("igstreme dellixy and good nature," as Thackeray has it), censures Imogen "for want of spiritual beauty." What precise kind of beauty Imogen wants is not stated; and it can only be inferred that the beauty of a spirit is not essential to the perfection of a mortal.

Mr. Francis Galton has forwarded to us the complete text of his address to the section of Anthropology of the British Association; and from it we find—not without regret—that we have somewhat unduly encouraged the hopes of parents endowed with only ordinary mental powers. He admits that it is more frequently the case that an exceptional man is the somewhat exceptional son of rather mediocre parents than the average son of very exceptional parents; but he is not prepared to go so far as to deny that the children of a gifted pair are much more likely to be gifted than the children of a mediocre pair. The difficulty, perhaps, is rather sentimental than scientific: for the doctrine that clever men choose silly women for their wives, and *vice versa*, has long since passed into an adage. And in the face of what we constantly see in past and contemporary history, we are forced to the conclusion that the mediocre element of one parent predominates over the exceptional gifts of the other. If Mr. Galton will prepare a table in which the exceptional talents of the parents or children of exceptionally gifted persons are displayed, ungifted readers of his exceedingly interesting paper will be more readily convinced; but to the majority of us the possession of exceptional gifts in two or more generations of the same family is difficult to trace, unless it be in plastic or pictorial arts, and even then the exceptions are so few as scarcely to warrant any scientific deduction.

Some discussion has arisen respecting the priority of the cry of "Stop thief!" raised in connection with Milton's alleged borrowings from the Dutch poet Vondel. We have little doubt that the indebtedness, real or apparent, was known to Southey, and it may be alluded to somewhere in his voluminous prose writings. The first, however, to point it out, so far as we actually know, was Thomas Lovell Beddoes, author of "Death's Jest-Book," in a letter to Procter, April 19, 1829, first published in 1851. He says, "I was very much pleased and struck on finding two lines in Vondel's 'Lucifer,' which I translate literally:—

And rather the first prince at an inferior court
Than in the blessed light the second, or still less.

Beddoes thinks the coincidence with "Better to reign in Hell than serve in Heaven" accidental, considering it very unlikely that Milton should have been acquainted with Dutch. He adds, "Does it not seem as if, at certain periods of the world, some secret influence in Nature was acting universally on the spirit of mankind, and predisposing it to the culture of certain sciences or arts, and leading it to the discovery of certain special ideas and facts in these?"

Milton's obligations to Tasso for his Infernal Council—immensely as he has improved upon the Italian—are well known, and his commentators have probably taken care to point out that Tasso himself is indebted for the idea to Claudio's "Rape of Proserpine." There is, however, another fiction of an infernal conclave, which Tasso assuredly never saw, but with which Milton, we have no doubt, was fully conversant, and which is far more in his manner than Tasso's or Claudio's. In 1549 Ponet, afterwards Bishop of Winchester, translated the Latin MS. of Claudio's "Divine Tragedy"—itself never published—into English of rare vigour. In this remarkable production, Lucifer is described as convening a council of fiends to deliberate on the means of destroying Christianity, and resolving to tempt the Bishop of Rome by the offer of a primacy over the Church. The conception is quite in the manner of Milton, who was undoubtedly well acquainted with Ochino, not only as an Italian and a Reformer, but as a writer on divorce.

A contemporary, remarking on Mr. Greville's description of the fiasco of Mr. Disraeli's maiden speech, records the orator's own account of his early efforts, and Prince Metternich's encouragement of these, given verbally to "one who served under him at the Treasury," as if there were some inconsistency between them. The designation of any speeches of Disraeli's to which Metternich could have listened as "early efforts" is most inappropriate, for the latter did not take refuge in England until 1848, eleven years after the former had entered Parliament, and three years after he had commenced that series of philippics against Peel which had already placed him in the front rank of debaters. It is quite true, however, that Metternich was greatly interested in Disraeli's speeches. Writing to a friend, he said:—"In the Commons Disraeli is the man: his Jewish extraction is a social obstacle in his path; but he is one of the most brilliant men I have ever met; and he is, without exception, the best Parliamentary speaker of his day."

When a young American girl, having found out the date of the birthday of the Emperor of Austria, wrote and congratulated him on the event, it is but natural that the monarch should have been pleased at such a recognition of his universal popularity from so far off. To mark his appreciation of the compliment, he sent the child a handsome gift—a gold brooch with a diamond in it—so that, no doubt, the day will be for ever sacred in her memory. But, as the facts connected with this incident have been made public it is likely that the Emperor will require to lay in annually a stock of gold brooches with diamonds. Other young American girls, and English girls, too, will remember his Highness's birthday; and henceforth he may confidently expect a great deal of congratulatory correspondence from foreigners in celebration of his natal day.

All questions as to the social status of the members of the theatrical profession must now be set at rest. An actress has refused an offer of marriage from a King! True, the matrimonially inclined monarch was a Maori; true, he already was provided with four wives. But he offered to have them all strangled in favour of the coveted comédienne, and devotion could go no farther than this. Alas! his dusky Majesty King Tawhaio was doomed to disappointment, for the New Zealand papers, to which we are indebted for this information, tell us that the potentate was "genuinely surprised" when his offer was politely but firmly declined. However, the occurrence is a feather in the cap of the dramatic profession. To number amongst them a member who has refused a Queenly crown—or, shall we say, feather head-dress—is an honour which will no doubt be appreciated at its true value.

When one picks up a paper casually, and reads:—"Prices ranged as follows: Women well up to dairy work, £14 to £20; second ditto, £12 to £16; girls, £8 to £12; foreman, £20 to £28; and boys, £8 to £15, according to age and experience"—one is apt to think that one is not reading in England, or else that the days of slavery have come again. But, quaint and curious as the announcement seems, it does refer to our own country; though instead of slavery, it is only the old Yorkshire custom of hiring servants at Martinmas that is meant.

The Inspector of Hackney Carriages at Brighton has a curious duty to fulfil, one day during the month of November. The season is then at its height, and he counts the carriages that pass a certain spot in ten minutes, the hour chosen, between half-past three and four. We thus find that in 1884 the number was 230, an excess of five over the year 1884; while in 1881 the largest register is noted, having been 294. The return has been regularly kept since 1857.

THE GENERAL ELECTION.

"Depend upon it, the wave is in our favour!" Thus confidently spoke the Prime Minister on Monday last, replying with accustomed spirit to the toast of his health at the house dinner of the St. Stephen's Club. Be the Marquis of Salisbury's terse prediction rose-coloured or not, her Majesty's loyal subjects have the consolation of knowing that Britannia will still rule the waves, whether the Conservatives or Liberals be in power after the General Election.

The rival hosts were led to combat by the most rousing battle-cries on the part of the two great Leaders, Lord Salisbury and Mr. Gladstone. As already intimated, encouraging and inspiring to a degree was the energetic speech the noble Marquis virtually made to his enthusiastic followers throughout the country from the St. Stephen's Club at the beginning of the week. Felicitously designating the Queen at the outset as "at once the guardian and the emblem of our well-ordered liberties and of our time-honoured institutions," the Premier earnestly called upon Conservatives to abate not a jot of effort to win their seats, pungently pointed out the sanguinary results of the Egyptian and Soudan policies of the late Government, and attributed to them the "mishaps and disasters that are associated with the names of Majuba and Khartoum, and in some degree with Penjeh." Then, the familiar "three-acres-and-a-cow" proposition was held up to derision—although allotments are freely offered by more than one Conservative landlord of title. Churchmen were warned anew of the dangers of Disestablishment at the hands of the Liberals, the noble Marquis lightly dismissing Mr. Gladstone's disavowal, and alleging that he "has been subject to illusions lately." Lord Salisbury concluded the briskest and liveliest electioneering address he has yet delivered by emphatically declaring:

We are fighting the battle of the acknowledgment of Christianity and its sustenance by the two great institutions that have sustained it from ancient time, and without which it would droop and fade in many a corner of the land.

Mr. Gladstone, on his side, has restricted himself neither to the short sentences nor short speeches in which the Marquis of Salisbury excels. Warmly welcomed to Dalkeith on Saturday last, Mr. Gladstone repaid his admiring auditors by delivering the most comprehensive address he had thitherto favoured his constituency with during his present visit to Midlothian. The right hon. gentleman repeated that a Liberal victory was to be desired to defeat the united forces of the Conservatives and Parnellites; and, with regard to the ceaseless attacks upon his friend Mr. Chamberlain, remarked that a bugbear was an indispensable luxury to the Conservative party, and that Mr. Chamberlain now occupied that position, in place of Joseph Hume and Mr. Bright. Mr. Gladstone took his stand mainly upon the land on Saturday. He made it clear that, were the Liberals returned to power, the land laws would be dealt with drastically. In justification of the allotment theory, an Act of the reign of George III. was cited, empowering local authorities to buy land to resell, just as it is proposed to do now. Not only did Mr. Gladstone argue in favour of a free transfer of land, cheap registration, reform of the Crofter system, the total uprooting of mortmain, but he vigorously applied his axe to the inequitable pressure of taxation on labour instead of property. It was thought the programme drawn up for Mr. Gladstone would have been closed last Saturday. But Mr. Gladstone, whose voice happily remained sound and strong, felt that yet another appeal from him was called for even after he had taken part on Monday in the impressive ceremony of inaugurating the restored Market Cross, which he had generously paid for, and an Engraving of which appeared in our last Number.

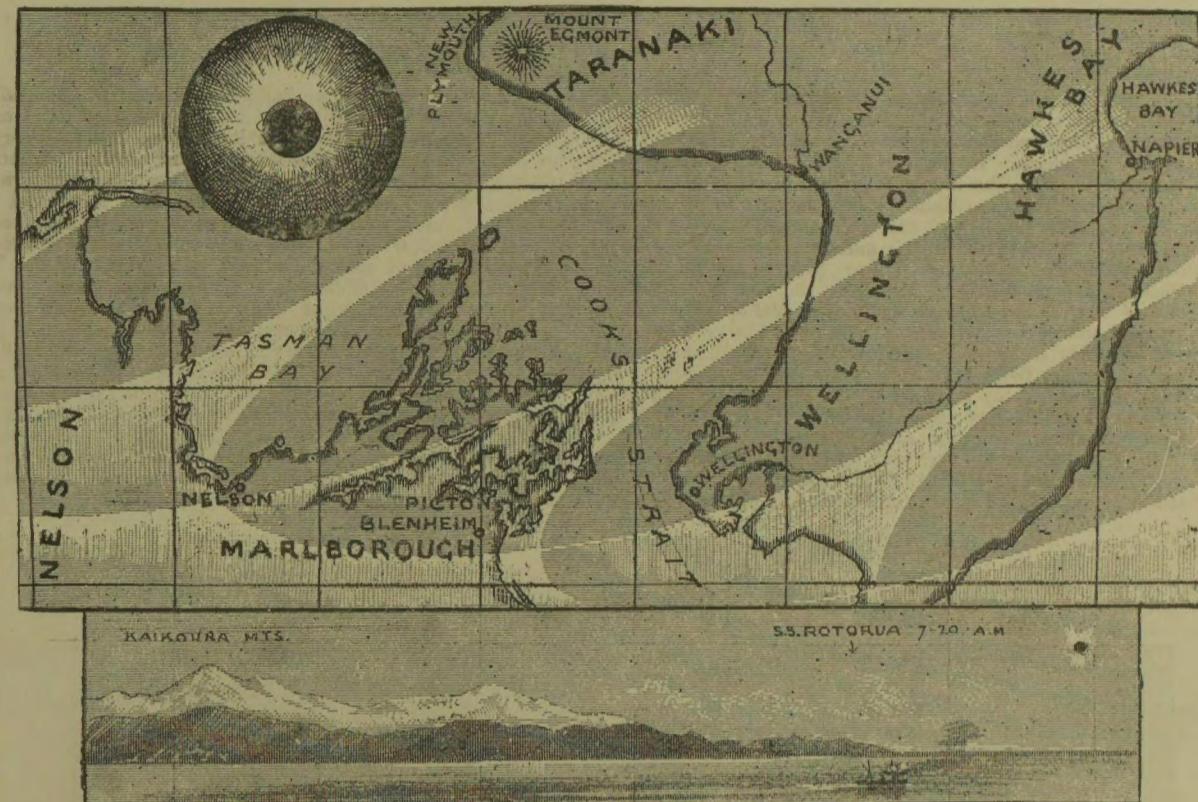
Mr. Parnell's peremptory command to Irish voters on this side St. George's Channel to vote for the Conservatives with four exceptions in the case of Home Rule advocates like Mr. Joseph Cowen, and Lord Salisbury's jubilant crowing at the St. Stephen's Club, stimulated Mr. Gladstone, at the shortest notice, to make a fresh and very earnest speech in the Edinburgh Music-Hall on Tuesday. In debating vivacity and energy, this address was the most notable of the series. Imploring the constituencies plagued with a redundancy of Liberal suitors to indulge in but one string to their bow, Mr. Gladstone, sniffing the battle from afar, resonantly attacked the alleged Conservative and Parnellite alliance, vindicated Liberal legislation for Ireland, and again called for a Liberal majority strong enough to enable the Liberal leaders to continue to deal with Ireland in the same spirit of justice, uninfluenced by the threats or violent language of Mr. Parnell.

The Election opened on Monday with the unopposed return of four Liberals—the veteran pioneer of Free Trade, the Right Hon. C. P. Villiers, for Wolverhampton, Mr. R. Ferguson for Carlisle, and Mr. Harry Richard and Mr. C. H. James for Merthyr Tydfil. On Tuesday, the tide of battle seemed to flow temporarily in favour of the Ministerial and Conservative Party. For, though Radical Birmingham rejected Lord Randolph Churchill, and elected Mr. John Bright, Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, Mr. William Cook, Mr. George Dixon, Mr. Powell Williams, Mr. William Kenrick, Mr. Henry Broadhurst, and Mr. H. G. Reid, still Mr. W. H. Smith was returned by more than 3000 majority over the Liberal candidate for the Strand, Mr. W. Grantham was chosen Conservative member for the new borough of Croydon, and Sir Charles Dilke narrowly escaped defeat at the hands of Mr. Whitmore (the popular Conservative candidate) at Chelsea, there having been 4291 votes for the right hon. Baronet, and 4116 for Mr. Whitmore, who thus received but 175 votes less than Sir Charles Dilke. As the *Times* remarked, it is a noteworthy fact that Lord Randolph Churchill, albeit defeated for the central division of Birmingham, polled 4216 votes against 4989 given to Mr. Bright: but it was also to be noted that in all save one other of the Birmingham divisions, the Liberal majorities were to be reckoned by thousands. Yet, in so far as the polling results had reached town up to Tuesday night, the Conservatives boasted a gain of twenty-nine seats against the twenty-one secured by the Liberals. Wednesday morning, however, brought the news that Mr. William Ingram, after a vigorous fight as the Liberal champion, had been declared member for Boston by a majority of 298; and this was followed by the intelligence of further Liberal successes. With regard to the composition of the new House of Commons, the country has good cause for congratulation in the early return of men of such high standing and well-proved ability on both sides as Mr. Villiers, Mr. Bright, and Mr. Arthur Peel (the Speaker, and a very good Speaker, too), Sir Charles Dilke, Mr. W. H. Smith, Sir John Lubbock, Mr. Chamberlain, and Mr. Broadhurst and Mr. Burt, the two well-known working-men members. In the interests of Parliamentary vivacity, it is to be hoped Lord Randolph Churchill will be chosen by some constituency to support his colleague, Sir John Gorst, who retains his seat for Chatham. We trust also that Mr. Sydney Buxton, unsuccessful this time at Peterborough, will find a constituency ready to appreciate his robust Liberalism. Altogether, it is satisfactory that the new House will have the guidance of many old, trusted, and experienced members.

TOTAL ECLIPSE OF THE SUN IN NEW ZEALAND.

Part of the North Island and the opposite part of the Middle (or South) Island of New Zealand, with Cook's Strait and the bays of both coasts, are represented in this Map, which is marked with bands of light representing the isochronal lines of the path of the solar total eclipse on Sept. 9, visible in no other country of the world. The corona, or luminous fringe around the eclipsed Sun, is represented by a figure at the upper part of our Engraving. Beneath the Map is a View of the north-east coast of the Middle Island (now often called the South Island), with the Rotoma, one of the Union Company's coasting-steamers, passing by. Mr. Hugh Boscawen, late R.N., of the Surveyor-General's Staff in the New Zealand Government, to whom we are indebted for this communication, was on board the steamer, and writes us the following account of the eclipse:—"I first observed that the black body of the moon advanced slowly on the sun, the same as in partial eclipses; nothing worthy of notice appearing until the sun was very nearly covered; and then daylight seemed to diminish. When the sun's face was reduced to a narrow crescent, the change was very startling, as the light became of an unknown kind, the sea and the snow-clad Kaikoura being overspread with a pallid appearance; and, as this strange wanness increased, so did the cold (about 40 deg. Fahrenheit). Then pale streamers appeared, stretching far away: this was the mysterious 'corona.' It reminded me of the light given by the sun in high northern latitudes; but the unnatural light is so essentially different from the ordinary appearance of twilight, that description is impossible; an ugly livid hue overspread everything. It lasted about a minute, or rather less, and the eclipse was at its totality about 7h. 36m. A.M. The times of ingress and egress I could not take note of, as I had no chronometer on board, the steamer being only a coasting one.

"The Map shows the path of the eclipse, and the only land



TOTAL ECLIPSE OF THE SUN IN NEW ZEALAND: MAP OF PARTS OF THE NORTH AND MIDDLE ISLANDS.

in the world that it passed over. The Diagram above shows what I saw of the corona. Owing to my being just on the southern edge of the totality line, I saw more of the corona scintillating from the northern limb than observers in the centre line on shore. The Sketch beneath is supposed to show the position of the steamer off the Kaikoura Mountains of the South Island, but is only a mental photograph, as it were, taken at the time. The sea was very rough, a strong breeze blowing from aft; the sky very clear, but darker than it seems in my Sketch; and, round the horizon and the snow-clad mountains, the sky was of a deep orange chrome, getting darker upwards, with a few stars shining. My opportunity was a grand one for seeing these phenomena; the Rotorua being the only steamer or ship of any sort in Cook's Strait at the time; and, having been trained in the Royal Navy to observe anything of this sort, I made the most of it. The observers belonging to the Survey Department on shore, the Survey-General, Mr. Barron, and others, managed to get some very good photographs of the corona; but, unfortunately, a good many of the stations fixed upon by some of the outside observers were obscured by snow and sleet." We feel sure that Mr. Hugh Boscawen's observations will be appreciated by those who take an interest in astronomical science.

A ward, endowed by Miss Matilda Levy and her sister, Mrs. Brydges Willyams, for the use of Jewish female patients, was opened at the Charing-cross Hospital on Tuesday. The first-named lady contributed £3000 and the latter £1000 towards the endowment. The ward contains four beds, and is a model of its kind for ventilation, light, and neatness.

Mr. W. H. Smith, with Mrs. Smith and a number of naval officials and others, proceeded on Tuesday by special train to Portsmouth, where her Majesty's ship Camperdown was launched, the ceremony of naming being performed by Mrs. W. H. Smith. The Camperdown will carry four 63-ton breechloaders, six 6-inch breechloaders, and twelve 6-inch rapid-firing guns, with four Gatlings, as well as eighteen torpedoes.

It is stated in the report of the Registrar-General that 2682 births and 1557 deaths were registered in London last week. Allowing for increase of population, the births were 91, and the deaths 175, below the average numbers in the corresponding weeks of the last ten years. The deaths included 1 from smallpox, 44 from measles, 11 from scarlet fever, 20 from diphtheria, 42 from whooping-cough, 24 from enteric fever, 3 from ill-defined forms of continued fever, 13 from diarrhoea and dysentery, 1 from cholera, and not one from typhus.

KING MILAN OF SERVIA.

The unjustifiable Servian invasion of Bulgaria has been repelled by the valour of Prince Alexander and his brave people, fighting day after day at the outlets of the Dragoman Pass; and King Milan's army of forty thousand men, superior in equipment as well as in numbers, has been forced to retire within his own frontier. The Sultan, with the approval of the European Powers, now threatens a forcible intervention to put a stop to this needless and mischievous conflict. Our Special Artist, Mr. Schonberg, who was in the country at the time of the Russian war, contributes a Portrait of the misguided King of Servia. This personage, who was proclaimed King in March, 1882, had reigned as hereditary Prince of Servia from 1868, after the death of his cousin Michael by assassination. The independence of Servia was established by the Treaty of Berlin in 1878. Milan Obrenovitch, who was born Aug. 22, 1854, is the first King and the fourth reigning Prince of his dynasty, which was founded in 1829 by Milos Obrenovitch, leader of the Servian war of insurrection, during fourteen years, against the Turkish Empire. Milan was educated at Paris, in the Lycée Louis le Grand, from 1864 to 1868, till, at the age of fourteen, he was called to the throne, the Regency in his years of minority being intrusted to Ristic and two other native statesmen; he was crowned in 1872, at the age of eighteen. In 1876, he joined with the revolted Provinces of Bosnia and Herzegovina in the war against Turkey, and obtained much Russian assistance, but his army was defeated at Alexinatz, on Sept. 1 of that year; and an armistice was procured in his favour by the diplomacy of the foreign Powers. In the following year, when Russia made open war against Turkey, Prince Milan renewed hostilities, and his alliance with the Czar was ultimately recompensed by making Servia an independent kingdom. He has, since the accession of the Emperor Alexander III. to the Russian throne, preferred to seek an

Austrian alliance, and has been watching for an opportunity to extend his dominions, either at the expense of Bulgaria or of the remaining provinces of European Turkey. He is married to Queen Natalie, a Russian lady, daughter of Colonel Keschko, of the Imperial Guard, and has a son about nine years old. Servia is a State with a population less than two millions, but important by its geographical position between the valley of the Danube and the plains extending through Macedonia to the Aegean Sea, with which it will hereafter be connected by lines of railway from Belgrade to Salonica. There is a sort of Parliament, called the Skupstschina, but the King has much control over its deliberations, and is practically master of the Government. The people are of the Greek Orthodox Church.

Telegrams from Sofia and Belgrade alike show that the fighting of Sunday and Monday last at Dragoman resulted in the complete victory of the Bulgarians. The fighting began at one o'clock in the afternoon, the first ridge of the Pass being carried by the Bulgarians by assault by three. The fighting lasted another three hours, when the Servians were in full retreat. Many Servian prisoners were taken. The loss was apparently heavy on both sides. The Bulgarians continued to press the Servians, and, after occupying all their positions, advanced upon the frontier. At four o'clock on Monday they occupied Tsaribrod, which Prince Alexander has also entered, the Servian head-quarters having been transferred, according to one account, to Pirot, and another to Nisch. The second reserve of the Servian infantry has been called out, and King Milan has, it is stated, resolved to make a final attack against the Bulgarians. Much exasperation prevails at Belgrade, where large convoys of wounded are arriving. General Jovanovitch is reported to have shot himself.

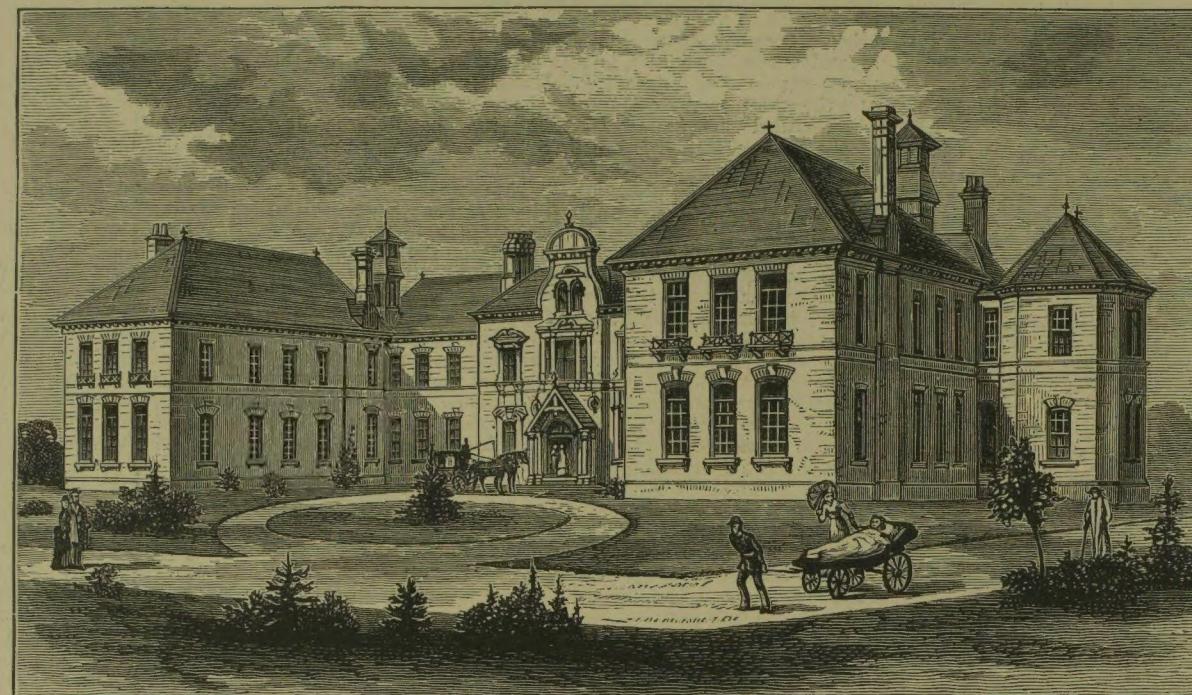
Prince Alexander of Bulgaria has obtained a reconciliation with the Sultan of Turkey by withdrawing his troops from Eastern Roumelia; and it is expected that the European Conference will forbid the Servians to continue the war.

Mr. H. Goghill, of Newcastle-under-Lyne, has given £500 to the British and Foreign Bible Society. For several years in succession, Mr. Coghill has given a similar sum.

The Portrait of Lord Deramore is from a photograph by Mr. Fradelle, of Regent-street; that of the late Dr. W. B. Carpenter, from one by Messrs. Elliott and Fry, of Baker-street; and that of Ahmed Mouktar Pasha was received from the Electrotype Company, of Farringdon-street. The Portrait of Mr. Whitworth Wallis is by Mr. H. Penn, photographer, of Birmingham. The View of the Jaffray Hospital is from a photograph by Mr. T. Lewis, of Birmingham; and those of the new Art Gallery and Museum were taken by Mr. Thrupp, photographer to the Queen, of the same town.

BIRMINGHAM
ART GALLERY
AND MUSEUM.

It is only within the last twenty or thirty years that the vital importance of an art education to our manufacturing classes has been recognised. But although the recognition is tardy, it is now very thorough. Our great cities, knowing that their future prosperity depends not only on the quantity of their products but upon the artistic excellence of them—or, perhaps, the quantity depends on the artistic merit—are fostering a feeling for art among the artisan class. Birmingham, one of the first towns to recognise the necessity for some such teaching, has just built a magnificent gallery for the housing of her treasures. This building will be opened to-day by his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. The gallery, which is in the Roman classic style, is a continuation of the Council-House, and has been designed by and erected under the superintendence of Mr. Yeoville Thomason, of the Adelphi, London, and of Birmingham. Entrance is gained to the galleries by a large and picturesque portico, by the side of which a lofty clock-tower rises above the building. The edifice throughout is decorated with English marbles of various colours. The first gallery is a circular one, 60 ft. in diameter and 40 ft. in height: this is devoted to the pictures which are the property of the town, supplemented by a few on loan. In the centre of this gallery are two large cases of ormolu-mounted china and bronzes, lent by her Majesty the Queen. The next gallery is entirely devoted to Italian art, and is one of the most interesting of the rooms. But to visitors, and to the artisans of the town, the very beautiful and valuable stone and wood carvings, wrought-iron work, terra-cotta and Della Robbia ware, are very attractive. They have been admirably arranged by Mr. Whitworth Wallis, the Keeper of the Museum and Art Gallery, previously of the South Kensington Museum, and, through his artistic management, show to unexpected and surprising advantage. Mr. J. C. Robinson has lent his beautiful collection of gems, plate, and enamels, which is also exhibited in this gallery.



THE JAFFRAY HOSPITAL, BIRMINGHAM, OPENED BY THE PRINCE OF WALES.

The Great Gallery, or Industrial Hall, as it is called, is a noble room, filled with a very large and varied series of exhibits. This hall is 100 ft. in length, and has a gallery on each side running its entire length. One of these galleries is filled with the very fine collection of arms belonging to the town, a most interesting series. The floor is covered with cases containing collections of Japanese and Chinese enamels and porcelains, Oriental bronzes and metal work, a remarkably fine collection of carved Oriental ivories lent by Mr. P. D. Bennett, and Mr. Gladstone's enamels and carved ivories. There are several fine cases of glass, both ancient and modern, and much beautiful jewellery, both of which classes of goods are very largely produced in the town and neighbourhood.

Beyond the Industrial Hall is the Wedgwood Room, which contains a collection of the great potter's work, which is said to be the finest ever brought together. This collection has been made by Messrs. R. and G. Tangye, who have given a portion of it to the town. This is a very interesting room both to Wedgwood collectors and to the general public, as many of the pieces are absolutely unique.

Perhaps one of the most interesting points of this, the Inaugural Exhibition, is the splendid collection of the works of Mr. G. F. Watts, R.A., and of Mr. Burne Jones, A.R.A., which Mr. Whitworth Wallis has been enabled to bring together. This collection is exhibited in the great picture-gallery, which is No. 5 of the series, and makes a magnificent display, well worth a visit to Birmingham (a much beslandered town, which is rapidly becoming one of the most beautiful in the kingdom). Mr. Watts lends nearly eighty of his works, many of the most beautiful and celebrated of his pictures being included in the number. Of Mr. Burne Jones's works there are such examples as "Le Chant d'Amour," "Venus' Mirror," "Love among Ruins," and "The Hours."

The arrangements of all sorts are excellent and complete; every one of the many thousand articles exhibited is ticketed and described; and very great praise is due to Mr. Whitworth Wallis, not only for his artistic taste, but for the knowledge he shows, and

for the pleasant and intelligible manner in which he displays it. In this new Art Gallery, Birmingham has a collection of which she may well be proud, and the benefits of which to the town will be great and lasting.

Denmark is poorer by the loss of an island, and of an interesting natural object. South of the island Suderoe, one of the Faroe group, a cliff rose sheer out of the sea to a height of from 80 ft. to 100 ft. Looked at sideways from a distance at sea, it resembled a great ship in full sail; but seen from Suderoe, it presented the appearance of a monk, whence it received from the Faroese the name of Munken. The Monk was not merely a picturesque object, it was also a valuable landmark for sailors, warning them against a dangerous whirlpool which swept around its base. But it is now only a thing of the past. Last year a portion of the cliff fell down, and this year all that remained was broken off just below the water-line, leaving in its place a dangerous reef which is covered even at low water.

MR. WHITWORTH WALLIS,
Keeper of the Gallery and Museum.

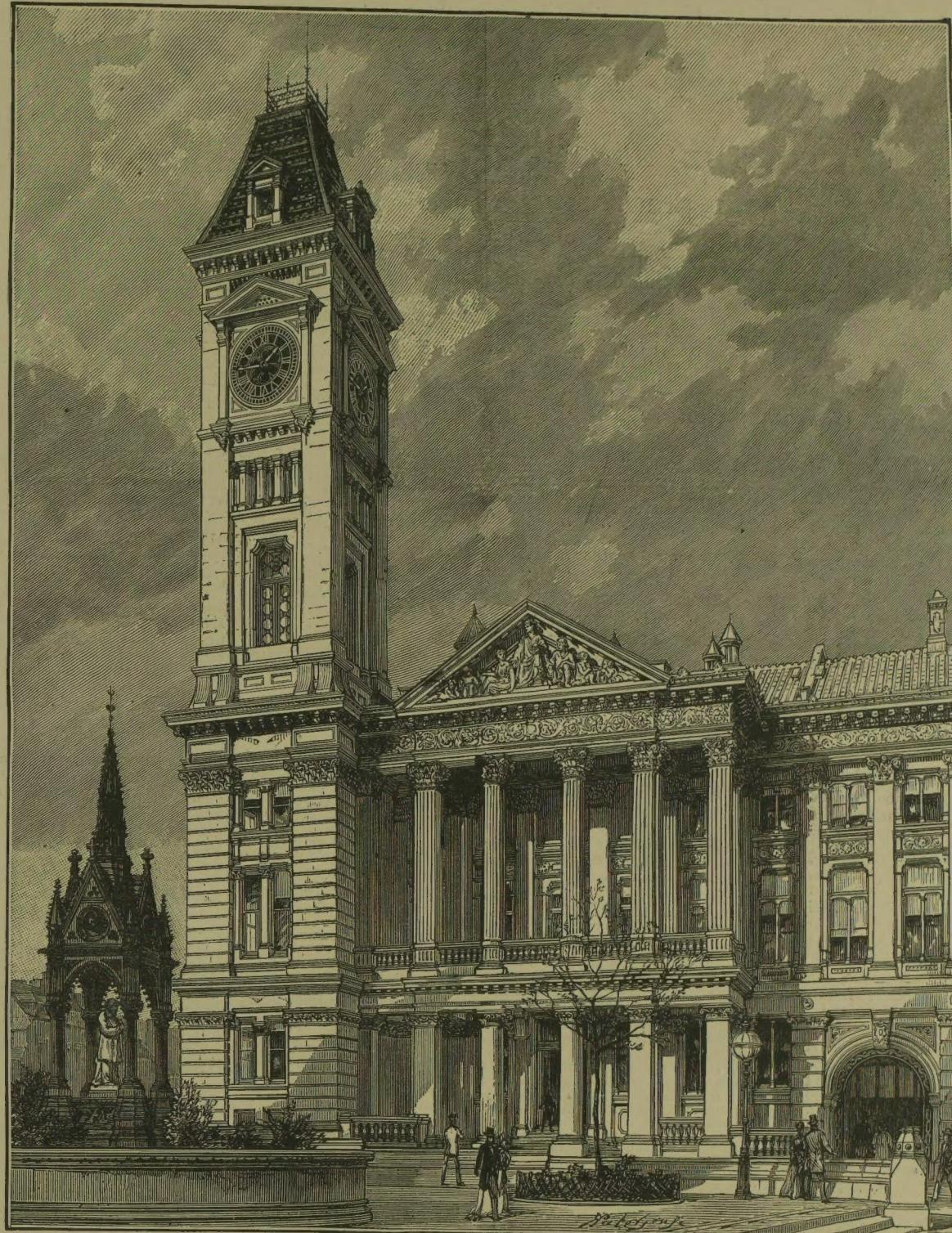
INTERIOR OF THE BIRMINGHAM ART GALLERY AND MUSEUM.

ELECTIONEERING HUMOURS.

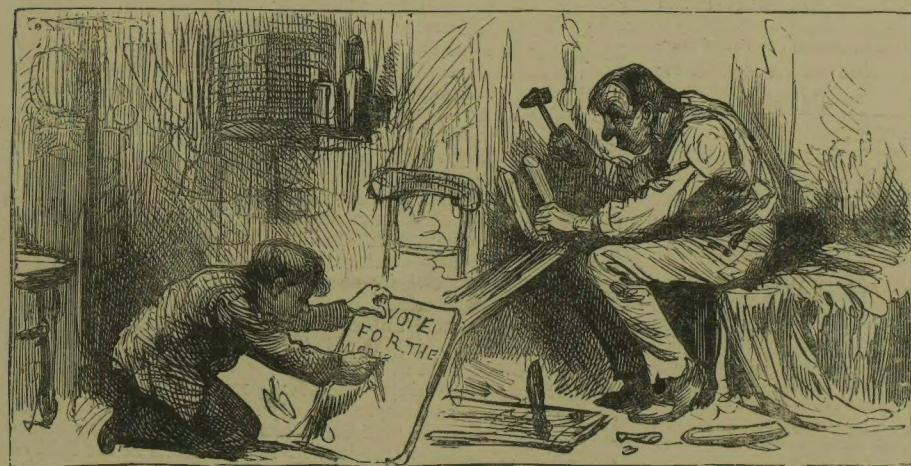
Our illuminated clock in our brand-new Townhall tower has for the last fortnight had plenty of novelty to beam down upon. Our new Townhall is of the latest streaky-bacon order of Elizabethan, with spacious cloisters for loiterers to freeze their feet in, with a belfry and mighty bell to ring—as the oldest inhabitant remarks, with vague memories of the old war times—in case of invasion. Opposite the new Townhall are the old Assembly Rooms, where, in days of yore, pretty little maids danced country dances, and "Money Musk" was squeaked out by a pen-like gallery of accomplished musicians. Our popular candidate has taken up his quarters at the new Townhall; our unpopular candidate at the old Assembly Rooms. Our agent in advance, who came down a fortnight ago, is a man well up to the mighty business of an election. In his early days, he was, in a sort of way, apprenticed to a famous bill-discounter; he twice failed in the wine trade; and then fluctuated curiously between success and failure, as that vague anomaly, a financial agent. Having done a little in "journalism," and a good deal in defending County Court summonses, as a defendant, he naturally acquired a considerable knowledge of the world. And that invaluable knowledge has undoubtedly influenced all around him. It was he who hired the new Townhall rooms for our popular candidate, without a moment's hesitation. "That building," he said, with sage emphasis, "is worth half a thousand votes to either side. Because it's the Townhall, it sounds antique and respectable-like, and so it'll catch the shilly-shallying Conservatives. Because it's new, and has got an electric-light show and bath rooms, and what not, it'll fetch the shilly-shallying Liberals. An old Townhall would go against the Rads. at once; any other noo building, bar the Townhall, no Conservative would have nothing to do with." The popular candidate was right, indeed, in choosing such a man as the general of the advanced

brigade. Our popular candidate has had a splendidly gay time of it. He has delivered a speech in every room more than twenty feet by sixteen in all the surrounding neighbourhood. Charming, sociable, and talented, he carries everything before him. "There aint no pride about him," say his

in the mayoral robes, was the one bright particular star of last year's Academy. It is to be regretted, however, that Mr. Jones is but too little affected by such fascinating influence. The fair canvassers leave him, doubtful, indeed, as to which side he intends to support with his august influence. His faithful



THE MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY, BIRMINGHAM, OPENED NOV. 27.



MAKING THE SEAT SAFE.



A FAMILY PARTY—BUT ONLY ONE VOTE.



POLITICS AT THE BAR.



OFF WORK: POLLING DAY.

Binns, who has grown old and globulous and white-haired in his master's service, sadly shakes his head as the bevy departs. Elections were different in the old days. He remembers the time when True Blue Higgins, the brewer, locked up half a score of undecided voters in his brewery, while the carbolic acid gas, steaming from an ill-attended mash, very nearly settled them, both for this world and the election as well. "No black eyes, no drinks at the Red Lion, not a single window smashed." Alas! alas! the election world is no longer what it once was—what it should ever have remained. If Binns had been the accomplished sub-editor of our local *Gazette* he would have quoted "eheu fugaces!" &c., and poetically told us how Time had flown and taken all the dear old pleasures of the dear old days with him. Jeames, his junior, however, is a gentleman of much superior culture, as well as calves. He is strong on the point of manhood suffrage. Yet, though imbued with some Socialistic tendencies, as a rule, he inclines to a sentiment of Conservatism. He will revel in the pride of citizenship; yet he sighs at the thought that, in the dim mystic future, a time might possibly come—a levelling, dreadful time, when silver-tipped staves will be as worms, and the most symmetric calves but as drugs in the market. Our Machiavellian agent, who is of the opinion of the immortal classic, that "when the skin of the lion is not large enough, fill it out with that of the fox," is not above practising some of those milder arts which are occasionally indulged in to prove the adage that all is fair in love, war, and electioneering. A corps of "unmounted infantry" are frequently sent out to create a diversion in the enemy's forces. A sudden cry, in the midst of an opponent's speech, of "Platform's a-goin!" has had before now a wonderful effect in bringing to a close a burst of eloquence that might chance have gained a firm adherent in a hitherto doubting elector. Slight applications of cayenne pepper, snuff, or curry on the rout seats; the turning off of the gas at the main; the sudden introduction of the village idiot into the midst of a serious assembly; all such wiles as these have been known before now to work wonders in their time. Our agent, too, is a most accomplished tutor, clever in the instruction of professional interrupters, those familiar hornets around the electoral beehive. Last night, when our hated rival, after a most eloquent peroration, artistically put the question "Perhaps, ladies and gentlemen, I am detaining you too long?" the familiar cry of "No, no!" was backed by a voice exclaiming, "My old man is a-waitin' for me with a umbrella!" while another malcontent informed the meeting that "The roast pheasants is a getting rayther cold." But the agents of our agent in this respect, after all, were actuated by the most patriotic of motives. What matter the means, if in the great cause the end be attained? Perhaps, however, the most aggravating to the enemy of the assaults of our talented agent is the result of the directions given to our crowd of bill posters. Whenever a bill of our enemy made its appearance, it was immediately pasted over by one of our own. This practice, however, resulted in the sole serious breach of the peace during the last fortnight. The opposition member, to make some way with his bills, informed his printer that in future he would only agree to pay for the number of bills that were legibly to be seen upon the wall. Our printer, however, being earnest in our cause, took care that the rival bills should be covered over as soon as they appeared. This, of course, touched the pocket as well as the party spirit of the rival printer. The two printers met before the bar of the Red Lion, and the next morning had to appear before the bench of magistrates. The sad spectacle of two respectable townsmen, each with a black eye, so unskillfully painted as not to conceal the tawny and orange hues which are the usual results of such assault and battery, brought only too closely to our minds that the enthusiastic joys of an election are perhaps exceeded by its sorrows. The more staid members of our community have, indeed, ventured to remark that the enterprising agent is not one of the old class—a local solicitor, who being a gentleman by right of his profession (if of nothing else), would only fall back on the traditional arts of egg-throwing, squib-printing, and honest cudgelling. It is not everyone, too, who in the town has benefited by the election. At the theatre, Othello's occupation is gone with a vengeance. In the portico stands our talented manager, mentally committing to all mischief the great event that has turned the minds of all men from the "Corsican Brothers" to the Corn Laws, and from the burlesque on "Black Eyed Susan" to the Burmese Question. But what, to the mind of the modern philosopher, appears more strange, is that crowd of poverty-stricken creatures who, mushroom-like, spring from the bed of party strife. The sandwich-men, the envelope addressers, the temporary posters—where do they come from, whence do they return? When the great polling day comes on; when our rivals have stolen a march on us by hiring all the flies, knowing full well that the greatest joy of the humbler elector is to be conveyed like a conqueror to the booth; when drums beat, and local reporters drink in latest results, or any light alcoholic refreshment that may, perchance, come in their way; when the great day comes, then does this crowd of hangers-on indeed look gloomy. The election is over; our member is returned; and they have passed from our midst. Let us, like Barbarossa, slumber for a while, until the great trump of political strife once again wakes us from our peaceful slumbers.

ANNO DOMINI, THE SEARCH FOR BEAUTY, and "The Chosen Five," by EDWIN LONG, R.A. These celebrated Pictures, with other Works, are ON VIEW at the GALLERIES, 168, New Bond-street. Ten to Six Admission, 1s.

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MORS ET VITA, at St. James's Hall, on Tuesday, Dec. 1, at 7.30. Madame Albani, Madame Trebelli, Mr. Lloyd, and Mr. Santley. Stalls, 10s, 6d.; balcony, 5s; admission, 2s, 6d.; to be obtained at Novello, Ewer, and Co.'s, 1, Berners-street, W., and 80 and 81, Queen-street, E.C.; the usual Agents; and at Austin's Ticket Office, St. James's Hall.

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THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. E. RUSSELL and Mr. G. F. BARDWELL. DARK DAYS, by J. Comyns Carr and Hugh Conway. EVERY EVENING at Eight o'clock. Mr. H. Beebohm-tree, Mr. C. Sugden, Mr. R. Pateman, Mr. E. Maurice, Mr. J. B. Durland, Mr. Forgas Dawson, Mr. Barrymore; Miss Lydia Foote, Miss Helen Forsyth, and Miss Lingard. Booking-office open daily, Ten till Five. No fees.—HAYMARKET.

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MARRIAGE.

On the 12th inst., at St. Stephen's, Cheltenham, by the Rev. Percival Smith, Vicar of Holy Trinity, Cheltenham, assisted by the Rev. Walter G. Lyon, Sutherland Rees Philpotts, M.D., of St. Ann's-heath, Chertsey, to Agnes Emma, younger daughter of Alfred J. Elkington, of 18, Lansdown-place, Cheltenham.

DEATHS.

On the 14th inst., at Ofveris, near Gothenburg, James J. Dickson, Esq., in his 71st year.

On St. Luke's Day, at Simla, aged 17 months, Henry Beresford Roberts, youngest son of Lieutenant-Colonel A. W. Roberts, Political Agent, Central India.

* * * The charge for the insertion of Births, Marriages, and Deaths is Five Shillings for each announcement.

INTERNATIONAL COOKERY AND FOOD EXHIBITION,

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MONDAY, DEC. 7, to SATURDAY, DEC. 19, 1885. Food in Process of Preparation and Decoration. Food ready for Use and Uncooked. Utensils used in the Preparation of Food. Labour-saving goods and Kitchen requisites. Cosaque, Bonbon, and Confectionery Making. Coffee Roasting and Grinding. Tea Tasting. Presents and Tit-bits for the Christmas Season. Articles of Utility and Fancy Goods for Home Decorations. Kitchen Literature, Artistic Menu Cards, &c.

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MONTE CARLO and MONACO have ever been free from the Cholera.

THE HEALTH OF THE RIVIERA.

As regards Nice, reports are again in its favour, and to the effect that the intestinal affections and gastro-enteritis have entirely disappeared during the last fifteen days. The effects of the tropical heat and the abuse of water, melons, peaches, &c., were very visible. Those effects no longer exist. Very copious rains have lately fallen, which have cleared off animal and vegetable decomposition; and it appears that all danger, even to the most sensitive, has passed away. Dr. Wakefield, of Nice, says that there has been no case there for more than a month; and visitors are daily arriving.

We have also been informed that Monte Carlo, Monaco, La Turbine, &c., remain free from anything to disturb public health.

Very favourable accounts have been received as to the sanitary state of Mentone. It appears from an official document issued by the Mairie of this town that the public health is all that can be desired; it has remained entirely unaffected by the epidemic which visited Toulon and Marseilles; and in the worst years of 1835 and 1855, when all Europe was more or less suffering from this scourge, Mentone was entirely free from it. On reference to a comparative state of the mortality of this town for the months of July, August, September, and October, it appears there were 105 deaths in 1835, 106 in 1844, and 63 only in 1855.

Cannes has been free from any alarming epidemic: the sanitary conditions cause the health to be all that can be desired, and an unusually good season is expected.

We may add that at Saint Raphael, near Cannes, and at Hyères, the hygienic state of the towns is all that is desirable; and at Marseilles there has been no epidemic for several weeks, and confidence is entirely restored.

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(By order.) J. P. KNIGHT, General Manager.

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS IN 1793.

At this moment, when a new House of Commons is being elected, our readers will accept with peculiar interest the Engraving presented for the Extra Supplement, showing the aspect of the Old House of Commons ninety-two years ago. It is a copy of the large picture, by Karl Anton Hickel, an Austrian historical painter, who removed from Vienna to Paris under the patronage of Queen Marie Antoinette, and who, at the downfall of the French Monarchy, sought refuge in England. The existence of this picture, which belonged to the Emperor of Austria, was discovered by the Right Hon. E. Stanhope, M.P., one of the Trustees of the National Portrait Gallery; and it has recently been presented to England by the Emperor Francis Joseph, through Lady Paget, wife of Sir Augustus Paget, British Minister at Vienna. It is now at South Kensington. The picture contains ninety-six portraits, with the Right Hon. William Pitt addressing the House, Speaker Addington in the chair, and the Right Hon. Charles James Fox, Sheridan, and Erskine on the Opposition benches. The view, looking eastward, shows the Speaker's chair with three large arched windows behind it, and the mace lying with books upon the table in front, at which the two Parliamentary clerks are seated. The spectator is so placed as to see more of the Ministerial side of the House, and a strong light is thrown upon the principal members. All, excepting Mr. Pitt, are seated. Three persons hold long wands. Most of the assembly are bareheaded; ten wear either black broad-brimmed or three-cornered military hats; but all wear knee breeches, and some, gaiters. The completely shaven faces and the uniform use of powder increase the difficulty of identifying individuals. Mr. Pitt, attired in a blue-grey coat and knee breeches, gilt buttons, and a white waistcoat, raises his right arm and hand with a somewhat deprecatory gesture. His powdered hair gives a strongly florid tone to the complexion. Mr. Fox wears a broad-brimmed black hat very much pressed down on the forehead, adding force to his intensely dark eyebrows. In the front row, to the left of the spectator, may be recognised Sir R. Pepper Arden (Master of the Rolls), wearing a black gown and clerical bands; the Right Hon. Henry Dundas (Home Secretary); Richard, Earl of Mornington, wearing a blue ribbon as K.P.; Robert Dundas (Lord Advocate), and Dudley Ryder (Paymaster-General); Canning, Sir John Mitford (Solicitor-General), Lord Macartney, Jenkinson, and Lord Bayham. At the table are seated Mr. John Hatsell and Mr. John Ley, clerks. The date of this picture appears to be early in the month of February, 1793, and it represents the animated debate upon a Royal Message which was delivered to Parliament, informing them that the King had determined to augment his forces "for supporting his allies and for opposing views of aggrandisement and ambition on the part of France." Such an historical moment, involving a discussion on the abolition of Monarchy, would naturally, after his painful experience in the country which he had just quitted, interest the artist, and he appears to have at once selected it, and to have been specially favoured with sittings from members who were present.

THE PLAYHOUSES.

All interest in connection with theatres has ceased for the moment, and will scarcely be revived with much vigour until Christmas-time. Elections and election excitement do not, somehow, harmonise with the footlights. All will regret to hear of the indisposition of Miss Ellen Terry, which has rendered



THE HOUSE OF COMMONS IN 1793: MR. PITT ADDRESSING THE HOUSE.

FROM THE PICTURE BY CARL ANTON HICKEL.

Presented by the Emperor of Austria to the National Portrait Gallery.

PARISIAN SAYINGS AND DOINGS.
(From our own Correspondent.)

Paris, Tuesday, Nov. 24.

The political crisis remains adjourned for the moment, and most of the deputies of the majority have determined not to provoke the fall of the Ministry until after Jan. 1, 1886. The amnesty question will probably be allowed to fall through, and M. Brisson will, it is hoped, give satisfactory explanations with regard to his Colonial policy, which will permit of his being supported for the present, at least. M. Grévy, after his re-election to the Presidency, will address a message to the Chamber recommending conciliation, and all will be for the best in the best possible Republic. The Opposition, however, continues to be irritated, and men like Rochefort, Laguerre, and Clovis Hugues are never at a loss when there is a question of worrying the Government. The sittings of the Chamber during the past week have been taken up almost exclusively with matters relating to validation and invalidation of the recent elections.

Here we are now near the end of the year 1885, and no definite decision has yet been taken with regard to the proposed Universal Exhibition of 1889. The preliminary commission remains inactive; the reports of which the exhibition has been the object are left to grow mouldy. Will there be an exhibition or not? Can the finances of France meet the expense of an international exhibition which must necessarily surpass everything that has hitherto been achieved in the way of exhibitions? The latest project is to abandon the idea of a world's fair, and to celebrate the national centenary of 1889 by a purely national exhibition, which would display, in a grand patriotic review, all the resources of the eighty-six Departments of France just one hundred years after the abolition of the old provinces. It is certainly time that some scheme were fixed upon.

M. François Coppée's new play, called "Les Jacobites," has been produced with considerable success at the Odéon. There are two ideas in the piece: one is the contrast between the frivolous manners and easy morale of the Court of Louis XV., and the severe Puritanism of virtuous Scotland; the other, already employed by Sophocles and Shakespeare, is the placing of a blind man in a situation which sight alone could resolve. The Pretender Charles Edward lands in Scotland to reconquer the throne of Queen Marie; one of the Scottish chiefs, Lord Fingal, furnishes him a thousand lances; and Charles Edward very soon seduces Fingal's wife, Lady Dora. Amongst the natives, whose enthusiasm has been roused by the landing of the Pretender is Angus, the beggar, half prophet, half bard, who has wept himself blind over the loss of his four sons, who have been killed by the English. Angus is guided in his wanderings by Marie, his grand-daughter, a virginal Antigone, whose brow Charles Edward kissed one day in his gallant way. This suffices to fill Marie's heart with hopeless love. The campaign commences with success, when, suddenly, some of these Puritan warriors suspect the light conduct of the Prince and swear to desert the cause if they find that the Prince has dishonoured one of their wives, or sisters, or daughters. Lord Fingal is one of these irate chiefs, who surprise the Prince at a rendezvous; but it is the beggar-maid, Marie, whom they find. Marie has sacrificed herself to save Lady Fingal; and, above all, to save the Prince and the cause of Scotland. Meanwhile, the blind beggar, Angus, has been brought in to judge the guilty woman; and behold! that woman is his own granddaughter. But why pursue the analysis of the piece? Without the action and the dramatic setting, it will be but a dry enumeration of situations; and, unfortunately, many of these situations seem improbable, even on the stage. The chief title of "Les Jacobites" to admiration is the fact that it is composed of some three thousand Alexandrine verses of great technical excellence, wonderfully easy in rhyme and elegant in form, if sometimes wanting in that clearness and precision of thought which used to be the characteristic of French prose and verse alike. "Les Jacobites" has had the privilege of revealing a new tragédie in the person of Mlle. Weber, who was unknown last week, and who is now spoken of as a future Rachel, or, at least, a future Sarah Bernhardt. This young lady, who won the first prize for tragedy at the Conservatoire this summer, has transported the critics and the public by the veritable power of her acting, by her fine diction, and by attitudes and gestures that reminded them of the sobriety and breadth of Rachel.

The National Union of Syndical Chambers have asked, and obtained, the support of the Minister of Commerce for the creation at Paris of an industrial museum "destined to keep Parisian manufacturers informed as regards foreign manufacture, and thus to help them to compete advantageously against it." This museum would be not only industrial but also commercial, somewhat on the model of the Oriental Museum of Vienna, which contains: 1, a complete and constantly increasing collection of everything that is produced in the East or imported into Eastern countries; 2, an inquiry office, where all sorts of information may be obtained concerning commercial transactions in the East.

Now that the Luxembourg Museum is being reorganised, there is some talk of devoting a room to contemporary engraving, where proofs might be exhibited of the engravings, etchings, and lithographs executed by order of the State. The idea is a good one, and its execution would certainly render the museum more complete.

M. Marcel Deprez's experiments in the transmission of force by electricity will be repeated next Friday, in presence of the members of the Institute, who will visit successively the generating engine at Creil and the receiving machine at the Northern Railway station at Paris. The force will thus be really transmitted over a distance of sixty kilomètres, or thirty-seven miles.

At the last meeting of the Academy of Sciences, Captain Renard, the chief of the military balloon establishment at Meudon, made an interesting communication with regard to aerial navigation. The navigable balloon, as at present constructed, travels at the rate of six mètres a second, and can sail against the wind, provided the velocity of the currents is inferior to that of the balloon. The screw-propeller, placed in front of the car of the balloon, is driven by an electric motor giving 3600 revolutions a minute. The experiments made in the month of September appear to have been satisfactory, but there are still many difficulties to be overcome. At the same meeting of the Academy, it was announced that M. Pasteur was making two decisive experiments in the cure of hydrophobia—one on the person of a German, who came from Düsseldorf expressly to be treated; and the other an inhabitant of Malakoff. These two men have been bitten by mad dogs; the bites were not cauterised; and both are now in the hospital of the Hôtel Dieu, suffering from lymphangitis. M. Pasteur is treating them by inoculations of virus, and hopes to put them out of danger, and to refute and confound his critics and detractors.

T. C.

The launching of the Italian ironclad at Spezia, the Andrea Doria, was most successful. The Duke of Genoa represented the King, and the new ironclad was blessed by the Bishop of Sarzana amid loud applause.

The German Parliament was opened in Berlin on the 19th inst. The Emperor was not present. After referring to various domestic measures, the Speech from the Throne states that a settlement of the Caroline Islands dispute may shortly be expected in a manner corresponding with the friendly relations existing between the two countries. With regard to the war in the Balkans, the confident hope is expressed that it will not disturb the peace of the European Powers.—Last Saturday, being the birthday of the Crown Princess of Germany, was chosen for the consecration of the new English church, named St. George's Church (a View of which was given in our last issue), built in the grounds of the old Palace of Monbijou. The ceremony, which took place at eleven o'clock on Saturday morning, was performed by Bishop Titcombe, assisted by the chaplain of the Embassy. The Chief Burgomaster of Berlin, accompanied by the principal municipal authorities, attended. The Crown Prince and Princess, Prince and Princess William, and the other members of their family were received on their arrival at the church by Bishop Titcombe. The ceremony of consecration was followed by a special service. The Crown Prince and Princess were enthusiastically cheered by the people on their arrival and departure.

M. Nabokoff, Russian Minister of Justice, has resigned, and has been replaced by Senator Manassine.

The Crown Prince and Princess of Denmark returned to Copenhagen last Saturday from Paris.

Sir John Macdonald, the Canadian Premier, has left Ottawa for London, in order to confer with the Imperial authorities about the Commission which is to arrange all fishery questions with the United States Government.

The members of the Sydney Geographical Society's expedition who were reported to have been massacred on the Fly river are all well.

A cyclone passed over the Philippine Islands on the 7th inst., destroying 8000 houses. Twenty-two lives were lost.

The British Expedition to Burmah is proceeding up the river Irrawaddy. It is announced by a telegram received at the India Office from the British Commissioner in Burmah, that Magwe has been captured, after a slight resistance, and that the British head-quarters have been transferred to Membo. A Reuter despatch states that the Expedition has reached Mingyane.

LADY STUDENTS AT THE NATIONAL GALLERY.

The additional Sketches of female Art Students employed in copying pictures in our national collection do not require much comment beyond that which was written by a well-informed contributor last week. The ladies pursue this avocation with much zeal and diligence, and with a single-minded devotion to the work, undistracted by ordinary feminine anxieties for their personal attitude and costume. Indeed, the rapt enthusiasm of one who is perched on a frail and lofty seat, with her feet on the back of an empty chair, at a long arm's length from her easel, towards which she inclines at a dangerous angle to the right hand, makes us rather apprehensive that she may lose her balance and fall. The young person attired in a flowery chintz or damask of ancient pattern, who seems to be looking for some companion at a distance, is probably addicted to the study of a school of art prevailing in the earlier part of the last century. Another lady, of composed and decided character, stands with the maulstick in her hand, apparently secure of having attained a certain degree of proficiency, and expectant of professional success. It is different with the timid girl below, who has attempted to copy a Romney or a Gainsborough's fashionable beauty; and with the painstaking, plain-looking young woman, evidently a worker for her bread, engaged on a picture in the classical mythology style, which affects an air of voluptuous sentimentality contrasting with the figure of the laborious art-student herself. The life and toil of a professional artist, at least one of the gentler sex, who has to live by her scanty and precarious earnings, and who may wear out her youth in the struggle with hopes deferred, is by no means an easy life. Yet there is a high pleasure in learning and working, in striving to copy, if not to create, the beautiful in form and colour—if only it were not so difficult to get a living!

Mr. Herkomer, A.R.A., the new Slade Professor, on delivering his inaugural lecture at the Sheldonian Theatre, in Oxford, on the 18th inst., received an enthusiastic greeting.

The winter exhibition of cabinet pictures in oil at the Dudley Gallery Art Society, whilst containing many fairly good works, is not distinguished by any special features. The place of honour is assigned to Mr. F. Goodall's, R.A., "Outpost" (120), an Arab, on the back of a camel, gazing intently across the desert. It reminds one, in pose and colour, of many of Mr. Carl Haag's figures; but is otherwise without interest. Two very charming landscapes, "Moonrise" (115), by Mr. E. A. Waterlow, and "Low Tide, Inverness" (121), by Mr. Ernest Parton, which hang close by, are amongst the best pictures in the room; but in neither do we trace any fresh departure. On the other hand, Mr. A. M. Rossi, in his "impressionist" recollections of some English watering-place, "By the Sea" (109) and "Little Anglers" (188), strikes a fresh chord, which although he is not completely its master, gives a promise of better things. Mr. John Varley, the grandson, if we mistake not, of the father of English water-colour painting, scores a decided success in his "Street Khan el Khaled, at Cairo" (168), where figures and buildings are alike carefully rendered. "Mischief" (139), by the late Mr. E. Sainsbury, is the figure of a thoroughly naughty child, who has broken off a branch of a flowering apple-tree, and upset a flower-pot in her eagerness. The child, in a brownish dress against a grey wall, is finely painted, and her face is full of expression, half gleeful, half remorseful. Mr. Horace Fisher's "Woman of Chioggia" (161), Mr. C. B. Yates's "Wanted a Governess" (28), Mr. Frank Hobden's "A New Piece" (70), and Mr. F. Blair Leighton's "Cut Off with a Shilling" (56), are noticeable—especially the last-named—amongst the figure-pieces; whilst among the landscapes and seascapes, Mr. Harry Goodwin's "Quiet Hour of Evening" (148), Mr. Henry Moore's "Cloudy Morning" (125), Mr. Edwin Ellis's "Spanish Head, Isle of Man" (81), and Mr. Joseph Henderson's "Showery Weather" (7), all display good, if not altogether original, work. Among the animal-painters, Mr. Weekes's "Way o' the World" (42)—a donkey in the pound, jeered at by a flock of passing geese—is especially humorous and excellent, and may honestly be regarded as one of the chief attractions of the exhibition.

The *Theatre* annual includes among its contributors Mr. Clement Scott, its editor, and other distinguished performers and dramatists, and is accompanied by eight portraits of popular actors and actresses. Some capital papers are furnished by Mr. Irving, Mrs. Bancroft, Mr. Wilson Barrett, Mr. C. Wyndham, Mr. Toole, Mr. Beatty-Kingston, Mr. E. L. Blanchard, Mr. Savile Clarke, Mr. G. R. Sims, Mr. Frank Marshall, Mr. Bram Stoker, Mr. Austin Breerton, and others.

CITY ECHOES.

WEDNESDAY, Nov. 25.

The money market is falling back from the position taken up on the Bank of England standard rate of discount being raised to 3 per cent. The Bank authorities have attempted to meet the case by themselves borrowing money from the open market; but to little purpose, since the supply still exceeds the demand, while, as lenders feel confident that the course of the market is not now upwards, the competition for business increases. The export demand for gold continues, but it is on a small scale, and large arrivals are in prospect. As regards the Stock Markets, they keep wonderfully firm; but the preoccupation of large classes of people in election matters is just now greatly curtailing interest in matters of this class. Though this pause in the upward movement is both natural and beneficial, it is not to the liking of the market. Yet it is there, and it would probably be to the public interest if it continued for the rest of the year.

Next Tuesday the shareholders of the Smyrna and Cassaba Railway Company will, no doubt, give a willing consent to the proposals of the board in regard to a loan being now made to the Turkish Government on the security of the traffic receipts of the railway, as from March 13, 1891, when the present arrangement ceases, until such time as the loan is paid off by those receipts, it is to run at 7 per cent interest, and 1 per cent per annum is to be added for sinking fund. For the five years intervening before the receipts are available compound interest is to accumulate, and at the same time certain claims on the Government are admitted, and are, with compound interest from the date of their due ness, to rank with the new loan upon the receipts in the new period. As between the company and the Government the working of the railway is to be reckoned to cost 50 per cent of the receipts—a rate which, according to recent experience, will leave a margin of profit to the company. Moreover, the company borrows the money to make the loan to the Government of the Imperial Ottoman Bank at 5 per cent, which is a gain of 2 per cent to the company. The result is expected to be that a surplus will be available from which to repay all the shares of the company; while, before this agreement was made, the shares simply ranked upon revenue until 1891, then ceasing to exist.

British life insurance offices have about £160,000,000 of accumulated funds invested in the several forms of high-class property; and while safety is the greatest point in view, it is also essential that there should be a fair average yield of interest, and that there should be as little fluctuation in current value as possible. Mortgages upon land and household property have always best fulfilled these conditions; and, while the tendency is now to invest less in British and the best foreign Government securities as yielding too little, there is an increasing inclination to look to the Colonies for the desired opportunities. At present, about 3½ millions sterling is added to the investments of insurance companies each year, and the difficulty of obtaining all that is desired is such that the largest company we have (the Scottish Widows') has appointed a resident representative in Sydney to look after the investment interests of the company in Australia. Mr. Joseph Mills is to go out under this appointment. Mr. Mills is at present secretary of the Crown Life office, and was formerly in the service of the Scottish Widows' Fund.

In anticipation of the conclusion of arrangements to transfer the Scinde, Punjab, and Delhi Railway to the Indian Government, it is notified that the annuity to be issued in respect of each of £100 present stock may be converted into £126 10s. of India 3½ per Cent Stock, on notice being given on or before Feb. 27 next.

Though it is admitted that no progress has yet been made with the attempt to bring about a fusion or working arrangement between the Brighton and Chatham companies, notice has been given that Parliament will next Session be asked to give the companies power to enter into agreement in this direction.

At the meeting on Tuesday the directors of the Royal Bank of Scotland announced a further dividend of 4½ per cent in respect of the past year, making 9 per cent in all, as compared with 10 per cent for each of the two preceding years. The undivided balance has been increased from £757,891 to £761,636.

Earle's Shipbuilding and Engineering Company, Limited, with a capital of £336,000, earned the sum of £2410 12s. 1d. in the year ended Sept. 30. In the previous year there was no dividend, and there can be none this time, but the balance to the credit of profit and loss is now £14,673.

For the first half of the current year, the Deferred Annuities of the East Indian Railway Company are to receive £1 2s. 6d. each. This compares with £1 2s. 8d. for the first half of 1884.

T. S.

The City of London Library has received an important addition in the shape of the collection of law books belonging to the City Remembrancer, Mr. Goldney, presented by him to the Corporation. It numbers altogether about 600 volumes, and is substantially a collection formed by the late Lord Chief Justice Cockburn.

An excellent Christmas number of the *Illustrated Sporting and Dramatic News*, bearing the title of "Holly Leaves," has been issued. Besides a capital illustration, printed in colours, entitled "Little Bo-Peep," from a painting specially executed for the journal by Mr. J. M. Bowkett, presented gratis with the paper, the number contains numerous seasonable engravings, well designed and carefully executed by artists of note; and tales, sketches, and verses—grave, humorous, and pathetic—written by the editor and other well-known authors.

Noticeable among the crowd of publications issued at this season is the ever-welcome "Father Christmas," the Children's Annual, entitled "Fairy Flights;" and in twenty-seven vigorously-drawn illustrations, some of them coloured, the artist, Miss Bowley, depicts the strange adventures that befall a host of fairies in their visit from fairyland to earth. A large coloured picture, "Beauty and the Beast," presented gratis with this amusing publication, shows a charming little girl, in free-and-easy attitude, with her beaming face almost starting out of the picture, as she lies reading a book—"Beauty and the Beast," of course—spread out before her; on one side of her being a dog and on the other a cat, both asleep. This picture is pretty sure to become a general favourite, as no doubt the publication will also.

In addition to the Christmas and New-Year Cards already noticed in this paper we have to mention, with warm commendation, some specimens of these seasonal gifts by Messrs. Sockl and Nathan, art publishers, of 30, Jewin-crescent. This firm, eschewing the ordinary style of card, have carried chromo-printing to a high pitch of excellence.—Messrs. Eyre and Spottiswoode's cards exhibit this year increased variety and unusual delicacy of execution. There are numerous flower-designs drawn and coloured after nature, charming child figures, and other graceful fancies.—Messrs. Philipp Brothers, of Chiswell-street, send some specimens, the designs of which are original and pretty, the printing being decidedly good.



LADY ART STUDENTS AT THE NATIONAL GALLERY.



TO THE RESCUE—MANNING THE LIFE-BOAT.

THE FIRE TEMPLE AT BAKU.

Our Special Artist, Mr. William Simpson, in his letter accompanying the View of Baku, the important Russian seaport town on the Caspian, in our last week's publication, referred to the interesting objects of antiquarian curiosity which he found in that place. One was the massive Fire Temple and tower, among the houses of the town, associated with the romantic story of a maiden, the daughter of a Khan, or of some great man, said to have thrown herself from the summit and killed herself to avoid dishonour. The Fire Temple is described by Mr. Simpson in the following communication:—

"To myself, the principal attraction at Baku was the old Fire Temple. I understood that it was of Zoroastrian origin, but Colonel C. E. Stewart, one of the Afghan Boundary Commissioners, was the first to give me exact information on the subject. He had first visited the temple as far back as 1866, when he found a Hindu priest from Delhi in attendance. This man had previously been connected with a similar temple, called Jowalla Mukhi, in the Punjab, which is a celebrated shrine in India, where subterranean gas comes up and produces a flame. This man told Colonel Stewart that the temple before his time had been served by a number of Hindu priests from India; they had gathered some wealth in this occupation, which brought upon them an attack from the Tartars, who murdered the chief priest and carried off the money; the others fled, and this man only remained. On the day of Colonel Stewart's visit, there was a rich Hindu Bunia from Hyderabad at the temple, who had made presents to the shrine. Colonel Stewart visited the place at various times afterwards, and in 1881 he learned that the old priest had died, and that he had been succeeded by a younger one, who had left in 1880, and the place has been deserted since that time. The temple is situated at a place called Surakhani, about six or seven miles to the north-east of Baku, and about three miles to the east of the oil-wells of Balakhani; the peculiarity of the spot being that gas comes up to the surface in many places, and a petroleum refinery was started close to the temple in order to utilise this gas in the process. The ground of the temple now belongs to Messrs. Karkaroff, the proprietors of the refinery, and the gas which fed the holy fire, and was worshipped as a deity, for so many ages past, is now reduced to what might be called the menial occupation of distilling naphtha. On my visit we had to go through the works of Messrs. Karkaroff to enter the temple, and we passed in doing so what was characteristic—this was a pipe fixed in the earth, with a large jet of the natural gas burning at its upper end like a magnificent torch. On entering within the temple we passed through a small room or cell, in which there was a fire-altar in the corner, of which an illustration is given; in the roof it will be noticed that there is a bell. Had I not received the information from Colonel Stewart, this arrangement would have suggested to me the thought that it was Hindu; for in almost all Indian temples a bell is placed before a shrine, to be sounded as the worshipper approaches. The principal temple stands in the centre of a very irregular quadrangle, which is formed of about twenty small cells all round for the accommodation of pilgrims. The temple itself might be described as Hindu in form, but not of Hindu architecture; it is a very plain structure, of rough masonry; there is an entrance on each side, approached by steps, and in the centre, under the dome, there is a square depression, from which a pipe projects, by which the gas ascended to the surface, and could be burned. This would be the principal sacred fire. In addition to this there are four small turrets, one at each corner, on the top of the temple; to each of these a pipe led up, and a light could be applied. In the illustration given I have supposed that these *panch agni* or 'five fires,' a favourite arrangement with Hindu ascetics, were burning, with the worshippers standing round. On the dome of the temple is a *trisula*, or trident, a symbol of Siva, which would indicate that the shrine was dedicated to this deity. Another feature of the place, showing its Hindu connection, is the existence of Sanscrit inscriptions. Over the doors of almost all the cells there are stone panels on which these are cut in the Devanaguri character. I copied some fragments of these, which have been submitted to Professor Max Müller, Dr. Burgess, and others. Professor Max Müller has been able to read the first words, which are the usual invocation to Ganesa—*Sri Ganesaya nama*. We have now the very curious inquiry placed before us as to how the Hindus found their way to this spot, which is so very far from their own country. It is a very remarkable problem, but as yet no answer can be given, neither can any suggestion be made as to dates. Dr. Burgess, who has had large experience of inscriptions in India, thinks that the one I copied cannot be over two centuries old; still this does not necessarily mark the first coming of the Hindus. The probability is that it was originally Guebre or Zoroastrian. The Magi would not be likely to overlook this natural source which produced their principal symbol of the Deity. When Heraclius, early in the seventh century, wintered on the plains of Mogan, near the mouths of the Kura and the Araks, the ancient Cyrus and Araxes, his soldiers destroyed the temples of the Magi, and extinguished the sacred fire. The plain of Mogan being so near to Baku, it was in all probability at the Surakhani Temple where this took place, and would tend to show that at that date it was a Zoroastrian shrine. The extreme antiquity of the spot, although the present temple and inclosure are of no great age, is accepted by all, and no one with this knowledge of its past is likely to pay a visit without a touch of regret at seeing the temple deserted, its fires extinguished, and the structure left to be ruined by time. Colonel Stewart tells me that he has heard of another fire temple in the Bokhara country, which, with the one at Baku and the other in the Punjab, makes three of these very peculiar places of worship. It ought to be mentioned that, as the temple in the Punjab is called Jowalla Mukhi, the Hindus call the one at Baku Jowalla Jee, Jee being an honorific title implying greatness and superiority."

Major-Gen. Sir Herbert Macpherson, V.C., K.C.B., K.C.S.I., has been appointed to the command of the Madras Army, in succession to Sir Frederick Roberts.

Dr. James Sawyer, an eminent physician of Birmingham, has been knighted, in recognition of his services to the medical profession and his long connection with the Birmingham Queen's Hospital. He is president of the Midland branch of the British Medical Association, and of the Birmingham Board.

The Ipswich Art Needlework Exhibition was opened at the Fine Art Gallery, on Thursday, Nov. 12, and bids fair to be a great success. A large quantity of work has been sent in from all parts of the United Kingdom, and much of it is very beautiful. Forty prizes have been awarded in the various classes, some of them being very closely contested. The appearance of the room on entering is very attractive, the articles having been arranged with much taste by the committee of ladies. Much interest is felt in the exhibition in the neighbourhood of Ipswich; and the prizes have all been given by the lady patronesses, whose generosity is much appreciated by those who have been instrumental in getting up the exhibition.

MUSIC.

THE SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY.

A new season was opened yesterday (Friday) week with the first of a series of seven concerts, under the conductorship of Mr. W. H. Cummings, who was recently appointed to succeed Mr. Charles Hallé on this gentleman's resignation of the office. Mr. Cummings had previously shown his thorough fitness for the post, and this was again manifested on the opening night of the new season. The works performed were Sir Sterndale Bennett's sacred cantata, "The Woman of Samaria," M. Saint-Saëns' setting of the Nineteenth Psalm, "The Heavens declare," and Beethoven's oratorio "The Mount of Olives." The psalm had not been given before in England. It is written for solo voices, chorus, and orchestra, and contains some effective music, combining a mixture of the old and modern styles, that of Handel being occasionally reflected. The principal soloists in it were Miss Annie Marriott and Miss C. Samuell, who sang their music well. Mr. I. M'Kay, Mr. Bridson, and Messrs. De Lacy, Forington, and Bevan assisted in some portions of the work.

Bennett's beautiful cantata was produced at the Birmingham Festival of 1867, and has been too rarely heard since. The music is impressive, although somewhat wanting in dramatic expression. Among the specially effective solo pieces in last week's performance were the air "O Lord, Thou hast searched" and "His salvation is nigh them that fear Him," admirably sung, respectively, by Miss H. Wilson and Mr. E. Lloyd. The other solo vocalists were Miss C. Samuell and Mr. Bridson. The fine chorus, "Therefore with joy," and the unaccompanied quartet, "God is a Spirit," proved very effective.

"The Mount of Olives" included some excellent vocalisation by Miss A. Marriott and Mr. E. Lloyd; Mr. Bridson having co-operated in the solo music. The chorus-singing was bright and ready throughout the evening. The society's annual Christmas performance of "The Messiah" will be given on Dec. 18.

The second of the "Brinsmead Symphony Concerts" took place at St. James's Hall last Saturday evening, when Herr Goldmark's overture, "Sakuntala," M. Massenet's prelude, "Le Dernier Sommeil de la Vierge," Beethoven's "Eroica" symphony, and an overture by Mr. E. Ould formed the orchestral selection. All these pieces are more or less, familiar, with the exception of that last named. It is the composition of a very excellent and esteemed member of our principal orchestras, who has now proved that he possesses high merits as a composer, as well as being a skilful instrumentalist. His overture is good in subject, treatment, and orchestral effect, and it was very cordially received. Miss Agnes Zimmermann gave a very effective rendering of Rubinstein's Third Pianoforte Concerto, and Mdlle. De Lido contributed vocal pieces with much success. Mr. G. Mount conducted ably. Mr. Oliver King's Pianoforte Concerto (which has gained the prize of thirty guineas bestowed by Messrs. Brinsmead) will be performed at the fourth (and last) concert, on Dec. 19.

The name of the composer of "Sisera," the sacred cantata for female voices (announced for performance at the Covent-Garden Promenade Concert of last Monday), has been erroneously given. The work is the composition of Mr. Isidore De Solla.

The newly-instituted "London Select Choir" (conducted by Mr. W. G. Cusins) gave its first public concert at St. James's Hall on Tuesday evening, when Gounod's "Messe Solennelle" and Mendelssohn's "Hymn of Praise" were performed by a band and chorus of about three hundred executants, with Mrs. Hutchinson, Miss M. Beare, Mr. E. Lloyd, and Mr. F. King as solo vocalists. The choir has evidently been well selected, the chorus-singing having been generally excellent. An efficient orchestra was also engaged; and the performance altogether gave good augury of the success of the new institution.

St. Andrew's Day is to be celebrated at St. James's Hall this (Saturday) evening by a concert of a national character, the day being anticipated in consequence of the room being preoccupied for the Monday Popular Concert. Another musical entertainment of a similar character, and with the same purpose, will take place at the Royal Albert Hall on Monday evening.

The concert given last week by Mr. Peacock and a friend, at the Royal Albert Hall, in aid of Nazareth House, Hammersmith, turned out a great success, some twelve hundred pounds, it is said, having been realised for the purpose in view. Madame Trebelli and other eminent artists contributed to a very long and varied programme.

The London Ballad Concerts, directed by Mr. John Boosey, entered on their twentieth season, at St. James's Hall, this week with a strong programme, including the co-operation of several of our most eminent vocal and instrumental artists.

The Royal Albert Hall Choral Society (conducted by Mr. Barnby) gave the third concert of the fifteenth season this week, when "Elijah" was the oratorio selected.

Mr. and Mrs. Henschel gave the second of their excellent vocal recitals at Prince's Hall on Tuesday afternoon; and in the evening Herr Peiniger's second violin recital took place at Steinway Hall, with an interesting programme.

Mr. T. Matthay, a skilful pianist, and a composer of some meritorious music for his instrument, gave a pianoforte recital on Thursday afternoon at Prince's Hall.

Gounod's great oratorio, "Mors et Vita," is to be given at the second of "Novello's Oratorio Concerts," next Tuesday evening, at St. James's Hall, with Madame Albani, Madame Trebelli, Mr. E. Lloyd, and Mr. Santley as the solo vocalists, Mr. Mackenzie being the conductor.

The Beaumont trustees, whose scheme for instituting a People's Palace in East London is so prominently before the public, have received £3000 towards the library and reading-room portion of the undertaking. This gift is to perpetuate the memory of the father of the donor, Mr. Dyer Edwards.

The next of the annual suppers for the criminal classes given at the Mission Chapel, Little Wild-street, Drury-lane, will take place next Tuesday, when the Lord Chief Justice will preside, supported by several members of Parliament, judges, magistrates, and others, who are interested in the welfare of discharged prisoners.

After a lapse of fifteen years, there is every prospect of the completion of the Printers' Almshouse at Wood-green, by the erection of two houses on the vacant ground belonging to the Printers' Corporation. The probable cost will be about £2000, and at the recent meeting of the council it was announced that an anonymous friend of the local visitor (Mr. W. H. Collingridge) had offered £1000 for building one house, if a like sum be raised for its endowment. Towards this object another anonymous friend, through the same channel, has offered £200, on condition of a further sum of £1800 being raised. Communications are invited previous to issuing details of the scheme, to be addressed to Mr. J. S. Hodson, secretary to the Printers' Corporation, Gray's-inn-chambers, 20, High Holborn.

THE COURT.

The Queen, accompanied by Princess Beatrice and Prince Henry of Battenberg, drove through Windsor and Eton on Thursday, the 19th inst., being everywhere received with enthusiastic demonstrations of loyalty. The principal streets were decorated with flags, and the bells of St. John's Church rang a merry peal. The Mayor and Corporation greeted the Queen at the foot of the Castle-hill; and at Eton the provost, masters, and students assembled with a like object. The Queen drove out yesterday week, attended by the Hon. Horatio Stopford and the Hon. Maude Okeover; and last Saturday morning her Majesty went out, accompanied by the Duke and Duchess of Connaught and Strathearn. Prince and Princess Henry of Battenberg drove out Saturday morning was the anniversary of the birth of the Crown Princess of Germany (Princess Royal). It was celebrated in the customary manner. The Queen drove out in the afternoon with the Duchess and Princess Margaret of Connaught, attended by the Countess of Erroll. The Prince and Princess of Wales, Prince Albert Victor, and Prince George of Wales, arrived at the castle in the evening from London. On Sunday morning the Queen and Royal family, and the members of her Majesty's household, attended Divine service in the private chapel. The Very Rev. Randall T. Davidson, Dean of Windsor, officiated. On Monday morning the Prince and Princess of Wales, and Prince George of Wales, left the castle. Prince Albert Victor of Wales left earlier to rejoin his regiment at Aldershot. The Duke and Duchess of Connaught and Strathearn went to London in the morning. Prince Henry of Battenberg also went to London. The Queen went out, attended by the Hon. Horatio Stopford. Lady Emily Kingscote, the Very Rev. Randall Davidson, Dean of Windsor, and Colonel Arthur Ellis, C.S.I., had the honour of dining with the Queen and Royal family in the evening. Sir Edward Malet, English Ambassador in Berlin, and Count Hatzfeldt, German Ambassador to the Court of St. James, arrived on Monday evening at Windsor Castle, and had an audience of her Majesty. Princess Louise, Marchioness of Lorne, visited her Majesty, and remained to luncheon. Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein dined with her Majesty. The Lord Lieutenant of Ireland and the Countess of Carnarvon, and Sir Edward Malet, with the Hon. Mrs. Egerton, and General the Right Hon. Sir Henry Ponsonby, had the honour of being included in the Royal dinner party. Princess Christian has been confined to her bed for the last three weeks with a severe cold. The Queen drives daily to Cumberland Lodge.

The Prince and Princess of Wales, accompanied by Prince Albert Victor and Prince George, arrived at Marlborough House last Saturday, from Eastwell Park, and left in the afternoon for Windsor Castle, on a visit to the Queen. The Prince and Princess, accompanied by Prince George, arrived at Marlborough House on Monday morning from Windsor Castle; and the Prince, with Prince George, left in the afternoon for Marham, Norfolk, on a visit to Mr. and Mrs. Villebois; the Princess of Wales returning to Sandringham.

The Duke of Cambridge left town on Monday for Marham to join the Prince of Wales and shooting party, assembled there for three or four days' sport.

The Queen has given £25 to the "Christian" Blind Relief Society.

The Hon. Mark Kerr Rolle (brother of Lord Clinton), by the death of his aunt, the venerable Lady Rolle, comes into possession of Bicton and the large Devonshire estates of John, Lord Rolle, whose name he assumed in 1852.

Sir Thomas Boughey was yesterday presented with full-length portraits of himself and Lady Boughey by the ladies and gentlemen of the Albrighton Hunt, in recognition of services as Master of the Hounds for twenty years, and for his again consenting to hunt the county.

Mr. Monroe, Q.C., Irish Solicitor-General, has been appointed Judge in the Irish Land Courts, in the place of Judge Flanagan, who has resigned; and Mr. J. J. Gibson, brother of the Lord Chancellor, has received the appointment of Solicitor-General for Ireland, in his place.

Admiral Sir G. O. Willes has been appointed Naval Commander-in-Chief at Portsmouth, in room of Admiral Sir G. Hornby; and Admiral Sir Claude H. M. Buckle, K.C.B., has been awarded the Flag Officers' Good-Service Pension of £300 a year, void by the death of Admiral Sir Augustus L. Kuper.

Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, the Commander of the Forces in Ireland, on the 19th inst. presented the Red Cross to Miss C. Cole, in recognition of her services in the hospital-ship Ganges in Egypt. The ceremony took place, in the presence of a large and distinguished company, at the Royal Infirmary, Phoenix Park, Dublin.

Count Münster, late German Ambassador to the Court of St. James, and now accredited to the French Republic, arrived in London on Sunday afternoon from Paris. His Excellency was entertained on Monday evening at a banquet given by German residents, at the Hôtel Métropole, and to-day (Saturday) he will be the guest of English friends at the same place.

The marriage of the Earl of Dysart and Miss Florence Newton, daughter of Mr. G. O. Newton, of Croxtton Park, Cambridgeshire, took place in St. Barnabas Church, Pimlico, on the 19th inst. Mr. Frank Mason, cousin of the bridegroom, was the best man; and there were six bridesmaids—namely, the Hon. Eva Hanbury Tracy, cousin of the bridegroom, Miss Aileen Conolly, Miss Paston-Cooper, Lady Constance Vaughan, Miss Hilda Burnaby, and Miss Florence Cochrane, cousins of the bride. The bride's train was held by her two little brothers, Masters Douglas and Denzil Newton, who were in Highland costume. The service was full choral, and the bride was given away by her father.

"TO THE RESCUE!"

The Royal National Life-Boat Institution, whose merits and claims on the British public for great and good services demand constant pecuniary support, has been the means of saving many hundreds of lives on the coasts of these islands. We have often explained its plans and the establishments that it maintains in complete efficiency at all the most convenient points around the shores of this country; and it is frequently the duty of a journalist to record some instance of the saving of shipwrecked men by the brave labours of a life-boat crew. An incident delineated by one of our Artists, the scene on the rocky beach, where a man about to embark in the life-boat is surrounded by the women and children of his family, helping him in great haste to put on his cork life-belt and other articles of his equipment, which they have brought him from the house, will be regarded with much interest by our readers. The rest of the crew, amidst the loud acclamations of their village neighbours, and with the fervent prayers and "God-speeds" of women awed by the sight of the storm, and by the peril of those in the breaking ship on the distant reef of rocks, are pushing off the life-boat, so that this man has not an instant to lose. Only the little girl, whose small hands can do nothing, stands rapt in terror of the spectacle at sea, and in admiration of her father's courage.

MURDEROUS OUTRAGE IN IRELAND.

The death of Mr. John O'Connell Curtin, of Castle Farm, between Tralee and Killarney, in the county of Kerry, during a conflict at his own house with a gang of "Moonlighters" on the 13th inst., was a very shocking event. It was nearly ten o'clock, as the family were about retiring for the night, that a party of armed and disguised men came to the door. The two sons were smoking in the kitchen. Mr. Curtin and his wife were up-stairs, and the daughters were in one of the parlours. The ruffians gained admittance through the kitchen door. The man who apparently filled the place of leader asked George, the younger son, for arms. The young man said he did not know where they were kept. Daniel, the other brother, then came forward, and said he would give the arms if he could find his father. The leader at this time had a rifle presented full in the young man's face, while two others of the gang who had come into the house also presented arms. Daniel offered to go for his father, and walked from the kitchen across the hall into the parlour, while the captain of the gang followed with his rifle presented a few inches from the young man's head. When in the parlour, the young man said he did not know where his father was. Just at this moment Mr. Curtin, hearing the tumult, had come down-stairs with a revolver. Some of the raiders filled the doorway, where, as already stated, two of them had followed the leader into the parlour after the elder son, Daniel. The young gentleman, describing the scene that followed, says he heard his father at the foot of the staircase cry out, "Come now, boys!" and immediately a shot was fired, apparently by Mr. Curtin; the men outside then fired at Mr.

Curtin, who was confronting them at the outer kitchen door, and he was mortally wounded in the abdomen, so that he died three hours later. He was perfectly conscious, and able to converse up to a short time before his death. When the confusion had ceased, one of the gang, a man named Sullivan, a labourer residing in the village close by, was found lying dead, having been killed by one of the shots from Mr. Curtin. A man named Thady Casey, with whom Daniel Curtin had wrestled, was arrested by the police on the same night; and six others, a brother of Casey, three brothers of Sullivan, and two more, have been taken into custody. They will be committed for trial by the magistrates of Tralee. At the funeral of Mr. Curtin, his body was followed to the grave by a large number of people, including Captain Plunkett, R.M., Mr. M'Dermott, Mr. S. M. Hussey, Mr. Donovan, and others of the principal inhabitants of Tralee. Mr. Curtin was a member of the Land League, and only a week before his death subscribed £5 to a fund for the defence of the tenants of Lord Kenmare who are threatened with eviction. We give two illustrations of the house at Castle Farm, and one of Mr. Curtin's grave in the churchyard.

The Marquis of Ripon has given £100 to the building fund of the York Institute, the foundation-stone of which was laid by the Prince of Wales.

The Board of Admiralty has decided to ask Treasury sanction for the immediate appointment of a high official for the supervision of dockyard work, to be attached to the Admiralty; and of civil assistants to the Superintendents of the Dockyards at Portsmouth, Devonport, and Chatham.

MOUKHTAR PASHA.

The Commissioner appointed by the Sultan of Turkey to act conjointly with Sir Henry Drummond Wolff in the settlement of the Egyptian Government is Ahmed Moukhtar Pasha, the most distinguished of surviving Turkish military commanders. He was born in 1837, of a Turkish family of silk merchants, at Broussa, in Asia Minor, and was educated at the Military Academy of Constantinople. In 1860, he served under Omar Pasha in Montenegro, but afterwards became Professor of Fortification, and tutor to the son of Sultan Abdul Aziz, with whom he made the tour of Europe. In 1869, he held political and military offices on the Montenegro frontier, and subsequently commanded in an expedition against the rebels of Yemen, in Arabia, gaining high rewards and promotion. He was Governor of Erzeroum ten years ago, and bore an important part in the defence of Asiatic Turkey against the Russians in 1877, after which he commanded at Janina, in Southern Albania. He has been honoured with the title of "Ghazi," the First Class of the Orders of the Medjidieh and the Osmanli, and other tokens of the Sultan's special favour; and he is undoubtedly a man of rare ability, not only as a soldier, but as an administrator and diplomatist, among the natives of Turkey.

Mr. J. G. Hamilton, of Dalzell, and Mr. Dundas, of Arniston, have been appointed members (unpaid) of the Board of Supervision for Scotland, in the place of Mr. Smythe, and Sir William Gibson Craig, deceased. These appointments are, it is understood, invariably held by members of the two political parties.

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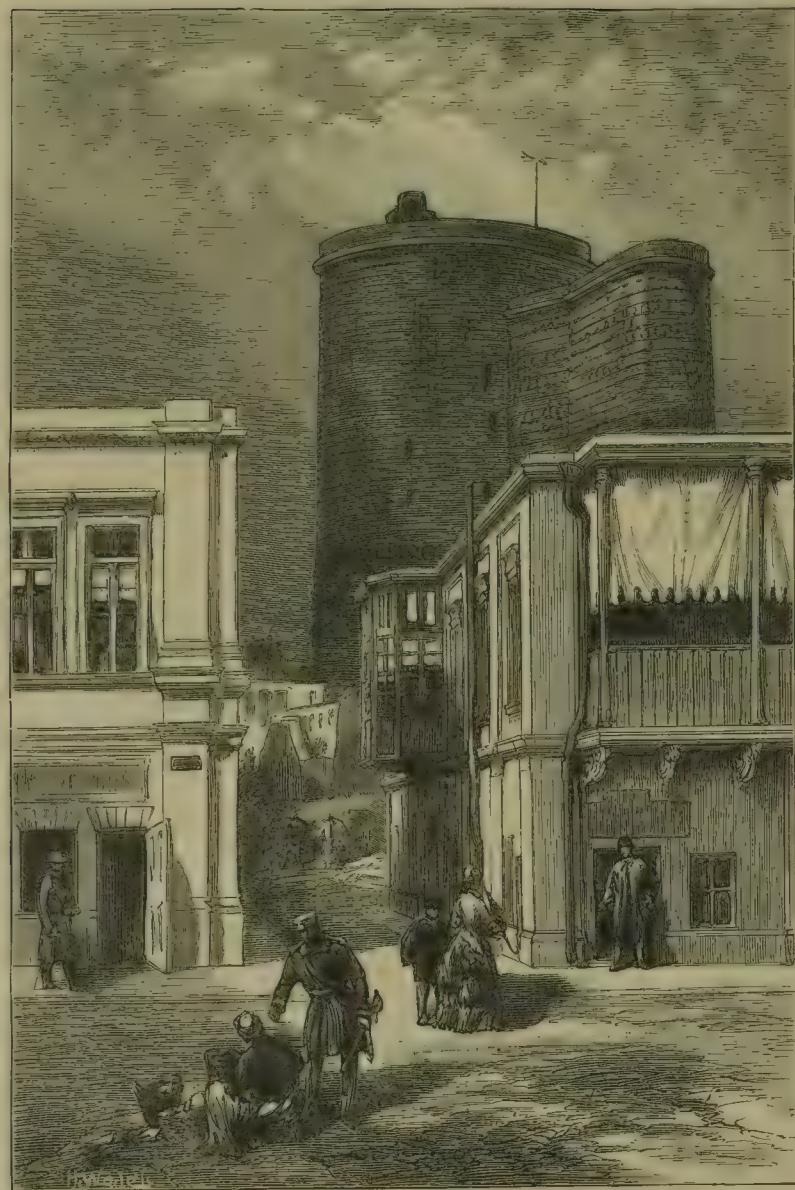
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LORD DERAMORE.

A peerage, with the title of Baron Deramore, has been conferred upon Sir Thomas Bateson, Bart., member for Devizes in the last Parliament and since April, 1864; and for Londonderry from 1844 to 1857. It was at the residence of Sir Thomas, at Belvoir Park, that the Earl of Carnarvon, the Lord Lieutenant, with the Countess of Carnarvon and suite,

sojourned during their visit to Belfast. His Excellency had great pleasure in conveying to Sir Thomas the message from her Majesty that a peerage should be conferred upon him. Lord Idesleigh stayed at Belvoir Park during his visit to Belfast two years ago. The new Peer, who was at one time a Captain in the 13th Light Dragoons, was born in the year 1819, being the eldest son of the late Sir Robert Bateson, on whose death, in 1863, he succeeded to the baronetcy. One of his

sisters, who is now dead, married an elder brother of Mr. Gladstone, the late Captain J. N. Gladstone, who died in 1863.

During the past week seven steamers arrived at Liverpool with live stock and fresh meat on board from American and Canadian ports, bringing a collective supply of 704 cattle, 1633 sheep, 4689 quarters of beef, and 105 carcasses of mutton.



CASTLE FARM, KERRY, THE RESIDENCE OF THE LATE MR. JOHN O'CONNELL CURTIN.



KITCHEN DOOR, WHERE MR. CURTIN WAS SHOT.



THE GRAVE OF MR. CURTIN.

THE LATE DR. W. B. CARPENTER, C.B.

This eminent physiologist and naturalist, whose death, caused by a painful accident with a spirit-lamp, took place last week, was President of the British Association of Science at its Brighton meeting in 1872. Dr. William Benjamin Carpenter was born in 1813, a son of the Rev. Dr. Lant Carpenter, Unitarian minister of Exeter and Bristol, and continued all his life a zealous member of that religious society. He was educated at University College, London, and at the University of Edinburgh; he became a Doctor of Medicine; but in 1843 settled in London, with the appointments of Professor of Medical Jurisprudence at University College, and University Examiner in Physiology and Comparative Anatomy. To these sciences, and to the zoology of marine animals, he devoted his chief study, and was the author of many valuable treatises, extending also to the investigation of mental philosophy and the processes of thought in the brain, and to the problems of biology and psychology, which have engaged much attention of late years. In 1856, he was appointed Registrar of the University of London, but not long ago retired from that office. In 1868, and in the two following years, he took part in the Government expeditions for exploring the bottom of the ocean off the north and

west coasts of Europe; and he afterwards helped in organising the Challenger expedition round the world for a similar purpose. Dr. Carpenter was honoured with the Companionship of the Bath for these and other public services; he was a Fellow of the Royal Society, a corresponding member of the French Institute, and his scientific merits were recognised by several Universities and learned societies. Several of his sons, one of whom is an esteemed lecturer on physiology, have attained professional and official distinction. He was brother to the late Miss Mary Carpenter, whose efforts to promote female education in India were highly approved by the Government there, and who laboured for the establishment of reformatory schools in England.

A photograph album, appropriately entitled "The Album of Blossom and Fruit," has been issued by Messrs. Smith, Son, and Downes, of 109, Queen Victoria-street. This album has sixteen different chromo designs, specially drawn by Vincent Clare, from various fruit and blossoms. It is arranged to contain cabinet and carte-de-visite photographs, and has a patent screw expanding clasp. The album, which may be obtained in different bindings, is well adapted for a Christmas present.

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CONTENTS.

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west coasts of Europe; and he afterwards helped in organising the Challenger expedition round the world for a similar purpose. Dr. Carpenter was honoured with the Companionship of the Bath for these and other public services; he was a Fellow of the Royal Society, a corresponding member of the French Institute, and his scientific merits were recognised by several Universities and learned societies. Several of his sons, one of whom is an esteemed lecturer on physiology, have attained professional and official distinction. He was brother to the late Miss Mary Carpenter, whose efforts to promote female education in India were highly approved by the Government there, and who laboured for the establishment of reformatory schools in England.

THE CHURCH.

The Bishop of St. Albans last week consecrated the new Church of St. Michael and All Angels, Walthamstow, of which Mr. Gladstone laid the foundation-stone.

The new Church of All Saints, at Stretford, near Manchester, was consecrated on the 20th inst. by Bishop Mitcheson, under authority from the Archbishop of York.

The Archbishop of Canterbury has issued a commission empowering the Bishop of Bradford and Bishop Bromley (late Bishop of Tasmania) to perform all episcopal functions in the diocese of Ely till the appointment of a successor to the late Bishop Woodford.

A large and influential gathering was held last Saturday afternoon at Cambridge, to take steps for raising a memorial of the late Bishop of Ely. The meeting was held in the hall of Pembroke College, a society of which the late Bishop was a member.

On Monday morning the Bishop of London consecrated a new church, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, in Great Marlborough-street, built from designs by Mr. A. W. Blomfield, the funds having been mainly supplied by the Board of Works out of the proceeds of the sale of St. Matthew's Chapel, Spring-gardens.

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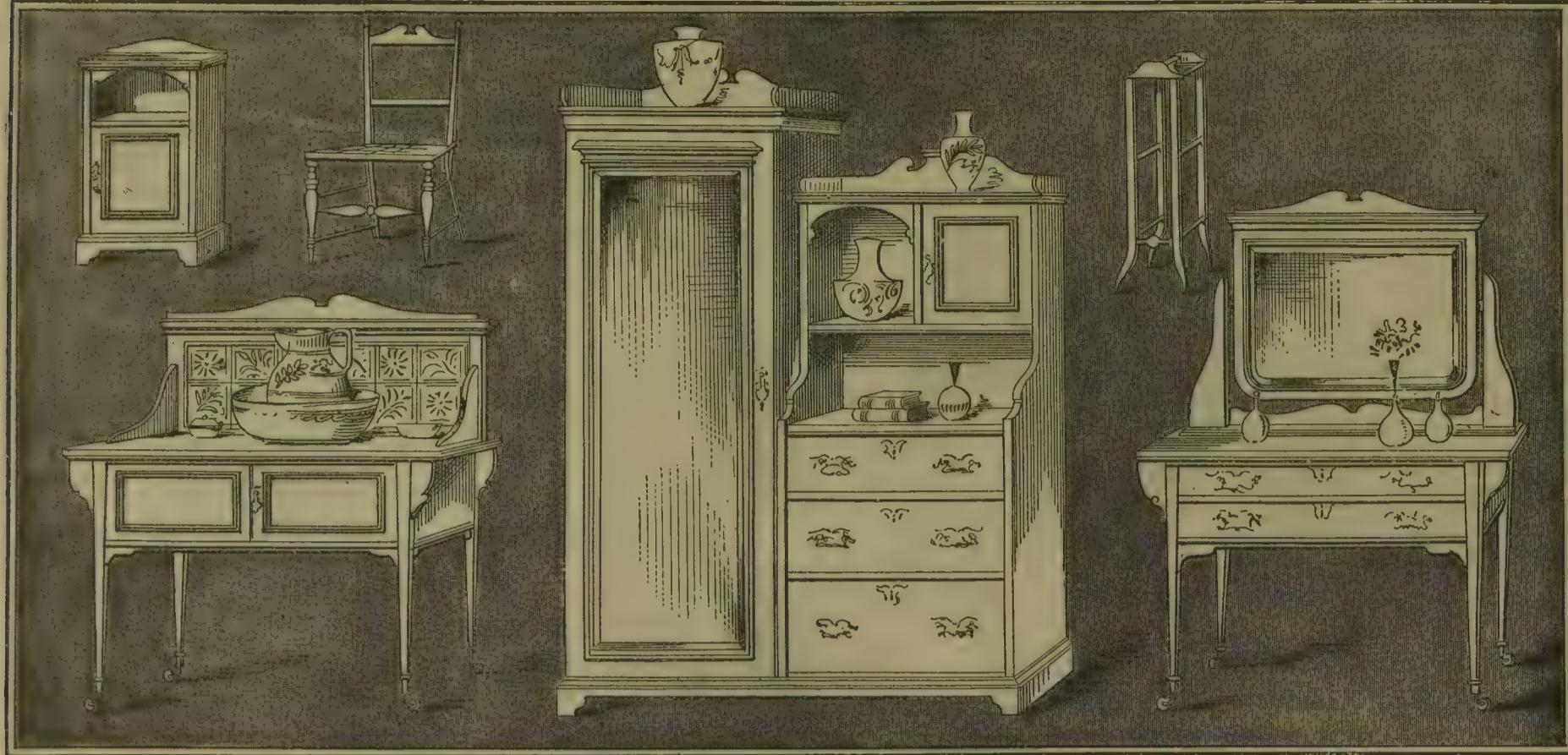


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The Irish Probate, granted at Dublin, of the will (dated Feb. 10, 1882) of the Rev. Robert Delap, late of Monellan, county Donegal, who died on July 28 last, granted to James Boyle Delap, the son, one of the executors, was sealed in London on the 4th inst., the aggregate value of the personal estate in England and Ireland amounting to upwards of £106,000. The testator leaves the mansion-house and demesne lands of Monellan, with certain rights and privileges, to his daughter, Susan Dorothea, for life, and, subject thereto, he gives the Monellan estate to his said son; and the Ballyshannon estate he also leaves to his said son. His wines and farming stock he bequeaths to his daughter, absolutely; and his furniture and effects to her, for life. There are two or three other bequests, and the residue of the personality is to be held, upon trust, to pay £1500 per annum to his daughter, for life, and ultimately for his said son.

The will (dated Nov. 21, 1884) of the Rev. Frederick Anson, Canon of St. George's Chapel, Windsor, late of Hillesdon, Torquay, and of The Cloisters, Windsor, who died on Sept. 9 last, was proved on the 7th inst. by the Hon. Mrs. Caroline Maria Anson, the widow, and Frederick Henry Anson, the son, the executors, the value of the personal estate amounting to over £68,000. The testator devises all his real estate at West Broughton, Derbyshire, unto his eldest son, Frederick Henry. His plate, pictures, books, china, and other articles of household use or ornament, horses, carriages, wines and consumable stores, and £2000, to his wife. The residue of his estate and effects he leaves, upon trust, to pay the income to his wife, for life, or so long as she shall continue his widow, and then for all his children equally.

The will (dated March 15, 1880) of Mr. William Augustus Guy, M.B., F.R.S., F.R.C.P., late of No. 12, Gordon-street, Gordon-square, who died on Sept. 10 last, was proved on the 29th ult. by Mrs. Georgina Lucinda Guy, the widow, and Harry Weller Richards, the executors, the value of the personal estate exceeding £43,000. The testator gives £2500 Consols, £5000, £150, the money payable under two policies of insurance on his life, an annuity of £200, and his residence in Gordon-street, with the plate, wines, pictures, books, and effects, to his wife; at her death, the portrait of Edmund Lodge, by Abbott, and the portrait of his grandfather, William Guy, by Romney, are to be offered as a gift to the National Portrait Gallery; and there are legacies to relatives and others. He also bequeaths £250 each to the Statistical Society, King's College Hospital, and King's College Hospital Convalescent Institution. The residue of his real and personal estate he leaves, upon trusts, for accumulation until his wife's death, or twenty-one years, which shall first happen, and then gives one moiety to his half-nephew, Tom F. Guy; and the other moiety to the Statistical Society and King's College Hospital Convalescent Institution.

The will (dated Aug. 9, 1880), with two codicils (dated Dec. 29, 1883, and Feb. 15, 1884), of Mr. Robert Valentine John Knight, late of No. 37, Blackheath-road, Greenwich, who died on Sept. 30 last, was proved on the 2nd inst. by Robert Valentine Knight, the son, Thomas William May, and William Hartree, the executors, the value of the personal estate exceeding £18,000. There are bequests to his wife, children, and others; the residue of his real and personal estate is to be held, upon trust, to pay the interest of one fourth to his wife, for life; and, subject thereto, for his children.

The will (dated Sept. 8, 1885) of Mr. Thomas Richard Grimes, late of No. 83, New Bond-street, and of Lyndhurst, Richmond-road, Kew, who died on Sept. 16 last, was proved on the 28th ult. by Mrs. Matilda Grimes, the widow, Herbert Thomas Redman Grimes, the son, and Henry John Philcox, the executors, the value of the personal estate amounting to over £11,000. The testator gives his household furniture; plate, and effects to his wife; and the goodwill, stock-in-trade, and effects of his business to his said son, subject to a yearly payment to his wife. The residue of his real and personal estate he leaves, upon trust, for his wife, for life, and then for all his children.

The will (dated May 22, 1884) of Mr. William Hunt, J.P., five times Mayor of Bath, late of No. 72, Pulteney-street, Bath, who died on Sept. 17 last, was proved on the 2nd inst. by the Rev. William Thorley Gignac Hunt, the son, the sole executor. The testator gives his house in Pulteney-street and two freehold houses in London to his said son, and among some other gifts to him is that of the salver and cup presented to him on the completion of the fourth year of his Mayoralty of the city of Bath. There are bequests to his daughters, grandson, servants, and others, and the following legacies for charitable purposes—viz., £25 to the Bath Royal United Hospital, and £10 each to the Bath Bible Society, the Religious Tract Society, and the Bath Forum School. The residue of his property he leaves to his three daughters, Mrs. A'Beckett, Mrs. Nicholson, and Mrs. Harrison.

The session of the Scottish Geographical Society was opened on the 19th inst., in Edinburgh, by an address from Lieutenant Greely upon his Arctic expedition. He related the adventures and described the sufferings of his party, sketched the scientific and geographical discoveries they had made, and advocated that further Arctic exploration should be made by way of Franz Josef Land. Lord Rosebery, the President of the Society, occupied the chair.

A more attractive narrative for old and young readers than *Sea Life Sixty Years Ago*, by Captain George Bayly (Kegan Paul), we have not read for many a day. In 1785 the celebrated Comte de la Perouse left France on the voyage to the South Seas from which he never returned, and a large reward was offered by the French Government to anyone who might discover the fate of the expedition. "About sixty years ago," Captain Bayly writes, "in the performance of my duty as trading officer of the St. Patrick, Captain Peter Dillon, at the island of Tucopia, it was my hap to purchase the silver guard of La Perouse's own sword. This furnished a clue, which was followed up until the search undertaken was crowned with success." The inquiry was pursued by Dillon, who was created a Chevalier of the Legion of Honour, and received 10,000f. to cover the expenses of his journey to Paris, and an annuity of 4000f.; but Captain Bayly received any share of the reward does not appear. The writer gives a vivid picture of the perils and miseries of the merchant service sixty years ago, and his account of Dillon is so strange a story that it would be difficult to believe it credible were it not that the writer received it from Dillon and his comrade, Buchert, independently, their accounts agreeing in every particular. We should add that Captain Bayly, who writes with great clearness and vivacity, has not relied on memory or imagination. The narrative, he states, "is compiled entirely from letters, and a journal written on the spot and now brought to light again after being stowed away for more than half a century." Reviewers are sometimes supposed by the uninitiated not to read through the books they undertake to criticise. To do so no doubt is sometimes a painful task, but we venture to say that neither critic nor reader will begin Captain Bayly's record of adventures without steadily perusing the volume to its final page.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All communications relating to this department should be addressed to the *Chess Editor*.
C C (Alexandra-road).—The problem lacks point, we regret to say.
E J W W (Croydon).—A palpable hit. Always glad to hear from you.

PROSPERO.—We require the name and address of the composer before examining a problem.

HELEWARD (Oxford).—Look again at No. 2173.

P S BARTO (Port Said).—If you refer to No. 2170, the solution is given below, and, as you will see, differs from yours.

C G (Ipswich).—You shall have an opinion next week.

J P T (Bromley).—Glad to hear from you; and have complied with your request.

CORRECT SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEMS Nos. 2156, 2157, 2159, and 2160 received from John J Milner (Christchurch, New Zealand); of Nos. 2168 from J Smith Lewis (Boston, U.S.A.); of No. 2169 from Thomas Chown; of No. 2170 from P Givins (Tiflis) and C Belton (Tiflis); of No. 2171 from H Robinson, L H G, Emile Frau, Hermit, W Vernon Arnold, and Rev. Winfield Cooper; of No. 2172 from C E Marr, F F Pott, Indazator, T Sinclair, and John C Bremner; of C W's PROBLEM from Emile Frau and J Alois Schmucke.

CORRECT SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEMS Nos. 2173 received from John Hedeson, Richard Murphy, Alfred W. Porter, J H Symington, W Biddle, Commander W L Martin (R.N.), Submarine (Dover), L Desanges, B H G Merryleather, D E Abraham, Rev. Winfield Cooper, Tommy Dodd, Rev. J R Olovenshaw, J A Schmucke, J K (South Hampstead), C E P, Fred MacCabe, Evy (Tredinnoc), Cape Xavier (Brussels), E Louden, Henry D Rhodes, E Cassella (Paris), C A Saville, G T Salisbury, C Darragh, Columbus, E Elsbury, Emile Frau, Jupiter Junior, J H Tamisier, R Tweedell, Nericia, F Marshall, Ben Nevis, C S Cox, W P Welch, Otto Fulder (Ghent), E J Winter, Wood, L Sharswood, Ernest Sharswood, Joseph Ainsworth, Van Volckerdson (Ghent), L L Greenaway, W Vernon Arnold, A W Newell, W H W (U.S.A.), T Sinclair, J Blakie, Shadforth, L Wyman, H Wardell, Richard Thomas, J C V Durrell, Hereward, A T Robert, B Wood, R L Southwell, A Brum, H Lucas, Muriel Club, W R Hailem, H T H, A C Hunt, H Robinson, H D'Eth, W B Smith, E H, T C D C, A J Spiers, J W Edwards, Laura Greaves, Thomas Chown, G W Hooper, John Short, John C Bremner, Edward Ridpath, William Miller, Hermit, J Brooke, A G Dawharn, Dabbsill, Fedden, C H Ryall, J P Langley, F (Brussels), M Mullendorf (Luxembourg), and James Pilkington.

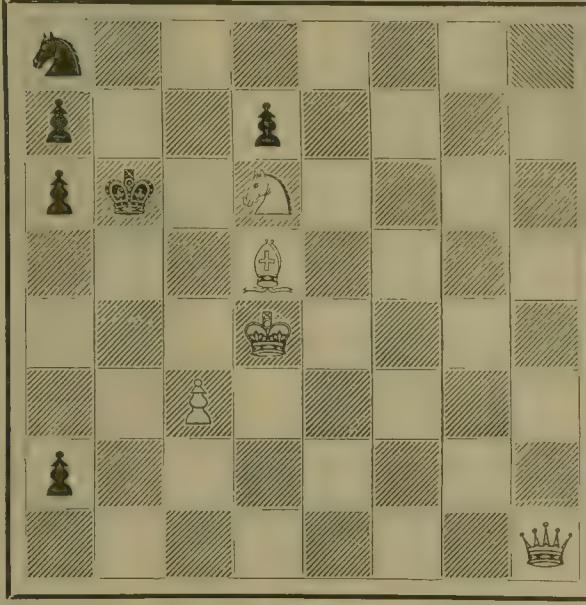
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 2170.

WHITE. BLACK.
1. R to Kt 6th Any move
2. Mates accordingly.

PROBLEM NO. 2175.

By JOHN C. BREMNER.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in three moves.

A brilliant little skirmish played at Gruz between Messrs. BERGER and STREISSLER.

(King's Gambit declined.)

WHITE (Herr B.)	BLACK (Herr S.)	WHITE (Herr B.)	BLACK (Herr S.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	15. Q takes B	B to K 2nd
2. P to K B 4th	P to Q 4th	16. P takes Kt	P to K B 4th
3. P takes Q P	Q takes P	17. Kt to B 6th (ch)	
4. Kt to Q B 3rd	Q to Q sq		
5. P takes P	Kt to Q B 3rd		
6. Kt to B 3rd	K to Kt 5th		
7. B to Kt 5th	K Kt to K 2nd		
8. Castles	P to Q R 3rd	17. P takes Kt	
9. B to R 4th	P to Q Kt 4th	18. Q to R 5th (ch)	K to Q 2nd
10. B to Kt 3rd	Kt takes P	19. R to Q 3rd (ch)	B to Q 3d
11. P to Q 4th	Kt takes Kt	20. Q takes P (ch)	K to B 3rd
12. R takes Kt	P to K B 3rd	21. B to Q 5th (ch)	K to Kt 3rd
13. B takes R, White gets a fine attack for the exchange sacrificed here.		22. B to K 3rd (ch)	P to Q B 4th
14. R to K 3rd		23. B takes R	Q takes B
		24. R takes B (ch)	K to R 4th
		25. P to Q Kt 4th P takes P (ch)	
		26. B to Kt 6th (ch)	K to R 5th
		27. Q to Q 3rd	Q to K Kt sq
		28. Q to Kt 3rd (ch) Q takes Q	
		29. R P takes Q	
			Double check and Mate.

Very pretty! If the Queen is taken, White mates by 15. Kt takes K B P (double ch.).

12. Kt to K 4th

Inadequate. But we see no good move for Black in this position.

We learn with pleasure that General Viscount Wolseley, Earl Dartrey, and other distinguished members of the Irish Chess Association, have written congratulating the promoters on the success of the first annual meeting lately held in Dublin. Earl Dartrey says:—"I am truly glad to hear that all went off so well. The success of the meeting will be a great encouragement to you and others, who have so handsomely given up so much of your time and taken so much trouble in organising it, to continue your exertions, and to afford the Association on future occasions the benefit of your countenance and support."

Mr. A. S. Peake, of Dublin, has been presented with a copy of the book of the London Congress (1883) as an honorary prize for the highest score made by a non-prize winner at the annual meeting of the Irish Chess Association.

A match by correspondence has been arranged between the Irish and Sussex Chess Associations.

The Athenaeum (Camden Town) Chess Club was successful in two matches last week. On the 16th Bermondsey was defeated by 6 games to 4, and on the 18th the Railway Clearing House succumbed to a score of 7 against 3. In each match there were ten combatants a side.

The Brixton and South Norwood Clubs met at Oliphant's on the 19th inst., nine players a side. The match resulted in a tie, each club scoring 4½.

No one better deserves acknowledgment for services rendered to English chess than the Rev. Mr. Skipworth, and we trust the fund for a testimonial to be presented to him is making good progress. We may remind our readers that the fund was started at the Herford meeting, and that the Rev. C. E. Ranken, of Malvern, is the treasurer. The subscription list will remain open until Jan. 1, 1886.

A new chess column has been commenced in *Cassell's Saturday Journal*, intended, in the main, we believe, for the "younger sort."

A match between the third class of the City of London Club and the County of Sussex will be played at the rooms of the former on the 28th inst., commencing at five p.m. Members have the usual privilege of bringing friends.

Sir R. N. Fowler, Bart., the late Lord Mayor, has been appointed a member of the Metropolitan Board of Works, in the room of Mr. Alderman Staples, the present Lord Mayor, who has resigned.

The Court of Common Council has resolved upon restoring the Fish Market at Smithfield to its original purpose of a fruit and vegetable market, in lieu of the present inconvenient building in Farringdon-street: and upon erecting a smaller building in Snow-hill for the wholesale disposal of fish.

At the Norfolk Fat Cattle Show on the 19th inst. Mr. Loder (Towcester) won the champion prize of £100 with a black crossbed, forty-four months old. Her Majesty took the first prize for northern steers, and the first prize for shorthorn heifers. The Prince of Wales secured the first and second prizes for steers bred in Norfolk, and the first for a cow bred in that county, likewise the chief award for Southdowns. The Marquis of Exeter, Lord Hastings, and Mr. Coleman were also successful exhibitors.

NEW BOOKS.

Mr. James Payn has for a season deserted fiction for facts, and *In Peril and Privation: Stories of Marine Disaster Retold* (Chatto and Windus), has brought together a number of thrilling narratives to illustrate the dangers of the sea. Of the adventures recorded, some told of Philip Ashton are so remarkable that, as the writer says, Defoe's "fine sense of what was lifelike would have resented them as being too amazing and extraordinary to have happened to the same person, and that, too, on a single voyage." The oddest of these incidents was the sudden appearance of a Scotchman in a canoe off the desert island on which Ashton had been cast months before. On the third day the stranger, name unknown and unasked, started in his canoe for some neighbouring islands and perished at sea. Very exciting is the account of the loss of the *Halsewell*, which occurred on the Dorsetshire coast a century ago, when the waves swept more than a hundred people on to a ledge of rock, of which, hearing the last shrieks of the victims who went down with the ship, many of the poor creatures, "being already unnerved and weak from bruises, lost their feeble hold and fell upon the rocks below." In the end, two men managed to creep along the ledge and then, on a space nearly as broad as a man's hand, to turn a corner and scale the cliff, two hundred feet in height. Ropes were obtained and numbers were drawn up, but in this last chance for life many are said to have perished. Under "Arctic Travel" there is a fearful story, also of eighteenth-century adventure, which we do not remember to have read before. In 1775 Captain Warren, the master of a whaler, on escaping from the ice, in which he had been becalmed, saw a vessel sailing towards him. Not a soul was on deck; no shout replied to theirs. They boarded her, and entered the cabin. There sat a dead man in a chair, with a pen in his hand, and a green damp mould on his cheeks and forehead. In the next cabin lay a woman. She appeared to watch a young man on the floor, who held a flint in one hand, and a piece of steel in the other. Several dead sailors lay in the forecastle, and a boy crouched at the bottom of the gangway stairs. "So terrified were the visitors by this terrible spectacle that they hurried into their boat, carrying only the log-book with them. On returning to England, Captain Warren found that the ship had been missing for thirteen years—frozen in its prison of ice." Surely no one save Coleridge's *Ancient Mariner* ever witnessed a more gruesome sight! The account of a lady's sufferings from the wreck of the *Juno* can rarely, if ever, have been exceeded. Seventy-two persons clung to the rigging when the ship sank, so as to bring the upper deck under water, Mrs. Bremner, the captain's wife, being one of them. Two died of starvation on the fifth day, and her husband on the twelfth. Showers of rain are said to have kept the survivors alive; but if there was any food we do not hear of it while she remained in the mizzen-top. After twenty-one days' suffering, and when "past the worst pangs of hunger," water being the chief thing needed, she was saved a few hours before the ship parted in two. Ultimately Mrs. Bremner, having recovered her health, is said to have been well married. "So it seems," says Mr. Payn, "that, with time and courage, one really does get over almost everything." Another wonderful escape, but of a different character, occurred on the Devonshire coast, and is called by Mr. Payn "In Sight of Home." But indeed all these narratives describe the extremity of distress and peril on sea and land, and in many instances a courage of the noblest order as well. It is this splendid forgetfulness of self in moments of extreme peril that makes an Englishman proud of his race. The book, with its illustrations, is intended chiefly for the delectation of young readers; but any person who takes it up will find the volume painfully attractive.

Admirers of Thackeray will find much that is characteristic of his genius in the twenty-fifth volume of his works, *Miscellaneous Essays, Sketches, and Reviews* (Smith, Elder). Here, if there is little of first-rate excellence, there is at least variety, and the freshness of style and thought which we are accustomed to look for in this great satirist. Among other things, one is pleased to observe the very generous and hearty praise Thackeray yields to his great rival, Dickens. As a critic of books and men, if he can be cynical, it pleases him better to be genial. There is a highly amusing and severe criticism of Mr. James Grant, gentleman who wrote a number of books years ago, which were easy to read and easier to forget. It must be allowed that the critic finds ample food for satire here, and we doubt not that the author of "Paris and its People" read this review with uncomfortable feelings. Mr. Horne, too, who afterwards wrote the famous farthing epic, could not have read without irritation the reviewer's comments on the "New Spirit of the Age," in which he is compared with Hazlitt and found wanting. Very kindly, on the other hand, is Thackeray's notice of his brother novelists, Lever, Lover, and, above all, of Dickens; and most gentle and sympathetic are his words about Laman Blanchard. Of pictures and of the artists in highest repute forty years ago in England and France, it is curious to read Thackeray's judgment. It seems that in those days the same suggestions were uttered with regard to the Royal Academy which have been so familiar to our ears of late. The following passage was written in 1844:—"Let us have at least a chance of seeing the good pictures. Have one room, say, for the Academicians and another for the clever artists. Diminish your number of exhibited pictures to six, if you like, but give the young men a chance. It is pitiful to see their works pushed out of sight, and to be offered what you give us in exchange." Yet it may be observed in passing that the clever young artists of those days are, in many instances, our present Royal Academicians, as the reader of Thackeray's "Picture Gossip" will discover. Three or four comic tales, which perhaps we may call burlesques of the sentimental style, will be read with amusement, especially "Miss Löwe." Among the essays and sketches which form a part of this *olla podrida* of good things, we recommend a paper on "Men and Coats." But the whole book will be read, no doubt, for its own sake and for Thackeray's.

Amongst the books of the coming season Mr. B. L. Farjeon's *Christmas Angel* (Ward and Downey)

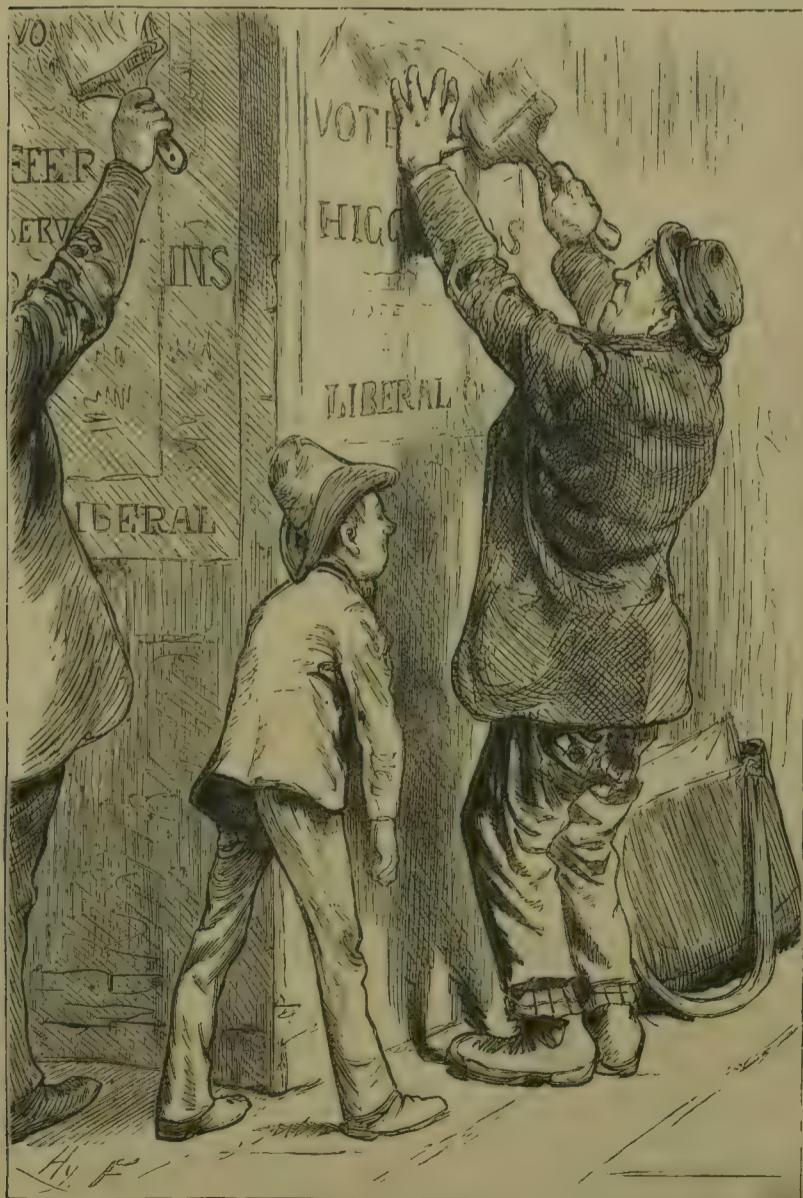
HUMOURS OF ELECTIONEERING.



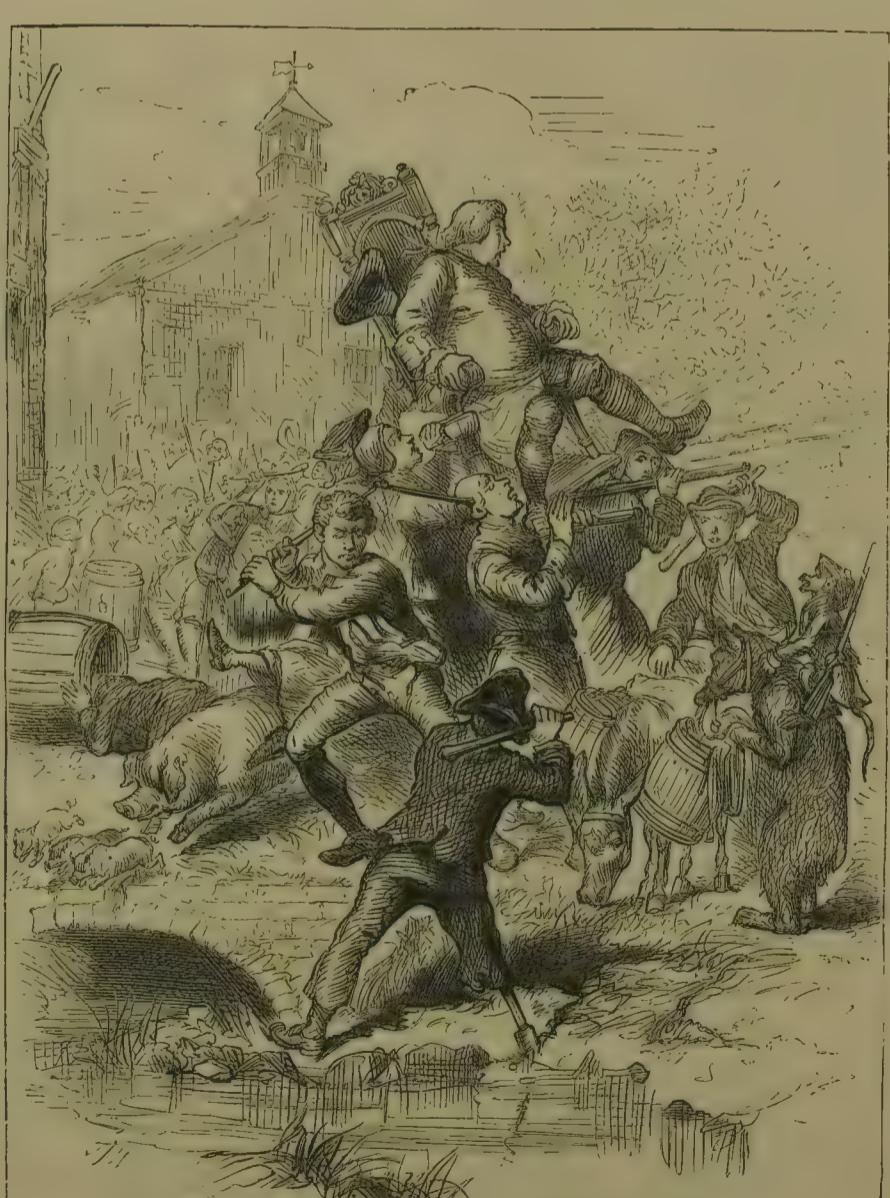
THE ELECTION AGENT.



SNUFFED OUT BY THE ELECTION: "OTHELLO'S OCCUPATION GONE."



"ALL IS FAIR IN LOVE AND ELECTIONEERING."



CHAIRING THE MEMBER (AFTER HOGARTH).



HIS FIRST VOTE.

HIS LAST VOTE.

NOVELS.

Romances in three volumes, or in more, or in not so many, generally deal with times past or present, save that the prophetic soul of the writer sometimes foresees a life of happiness and troops of children to come when the hero and the heroine have at last appeared at the hymeneal altar; but now and then, as in *John Haile*, by the author of "Sleepy Sketches" (Sampson Low and Co.), a writer makes a bold bid for an appearance of originality by drawing a fanciful picture of what will be hereafter—say, in the early part of the next century. This device, however, is becoming more and more common, so that it threatens to be hackneyed before long, and has already lost such originality as it may for a while have seemed to possess. *John Haile*, then, is supposed to have been born in 1880; and, as very little information is vouchsafed concerning his personal conduct during his infancy and childhood, his history cannot be considered to have commenced much before the year 1900. The "successful failure," too, which, according to the title-page, *John Haile* accomplished, and of which it is professedly the object of the three volumes to set forth the story, belongs to the date of 1902 or 1903, at which the narrative is brought to a close; so that, as the "successful failure" takes next to no time for its accomplishment, and is a very simple matter indeed, it is clear that the pages must be filled—to a considerable extent—with matters not altogether unconnected with *John Haile*, of course, but only very slightly connected with his "successful failure." Among these matters the chief place must be assigned to a very complicated case of bigamy and impersonation. A more insignificant position must be given to politics and to the affairs of a certain Prophet (with a capital initial letter), a sort of English Mahdi, with whose appearance in the near future we seem to be threatened. He must be alive now, though he is not to commence his functions before about 1898 (when he will be some forty-five or fifty years old); but he is about seven feet high, has wonderful blue eyes, is called Carl Stockmar (unless he is to change his name), and is a shoemaker at Bangor (unless he is to change his trade and his place of residence). Altogether, this is a very extraordinary rather than interesting story, clever rather than impressive, bewildering rather than striking, ingeniously contrived rather than well constructed.

A very nice story, with the scene laid principally in the pretty, or rather grand, island of Guernsey (if grandeur be compatible with so small a scale), is *A Girton Girl*: by Mrs. Annie Edwardes (Richard Bentley and Son), a tale of love and lovers' quarrels and reconciliations, of domestic differences, breaches, misunderstandings, and most pathetic explanations and rehabilitations, of the green-eyed monster—jealousy—triumphant for a while, but ultimately checked in his victorious career, ignominiously beaten, and driven to take refuge in his own opprobrious den. Artists, especially if they be handsome, superficially clever, fashionable, and drawn by the hand of a lady, are always offensive and highly objectionable (in fiction, at any rate), and in this novel the hero is an artist belonging to that category; but, fortunately, he has a wife who, when she is not in one of her over-affectionate, jealous, querulous moods, takes the taste of him out of the reader's mouth, and, more fortunately still, there is the falsely-called "Girton girl," a wonderfully original and charming creature; there is her father, an eccentric and amusing, and at the same time a worshipful old gentleman; there is her "coach," a graduate of Cambridge, a very king of men, both physically and morally (though, thank goodness, he is not handsome); and there are subordinate personages who will be found to play their parts to the reader's great content. Indeed, the novel is an

unusually interesting, graceful, well-written, original, entertaining, sentimental (in the wholesome sense), and pathetic romance.

Dreadful and apparently purposeless, save for the sake of producing a startling effect, is the climax at which the reader gradually arrives in the third volume of *In Sight of Land*: by Lady Duffus Hardy (Ward and Downey); but the climax is worked up to very forcibly, ingeniously, and yet naturally, and all that is horrible and distressing is relieved by some charming and some amusing scenes. The whole narrative, however, or recitative, is pitched in a very unpleasant key; the fundamental idea of the romance is very disagreeable. An extremely worthy gentleman unintentionally commits bigamy; intentionally keeps a lovely, but peculiar, girl out of the custody of her lawful guardian (her father), and by so doing prepares for himself unconsciously a sanguinary and very shocking end. He would probably not have been deterred from doing what he did, even had he known beforehand the fate which threatened him; only, in that case, he would no doubt have taken certain precautions, whereby the threatening fate might have been averted. Happily, there are episodes of a bright and entertaining kind to make frequent, cheering breaks in the story; but the main business is of a very gloomy and depressing sort. A scoundrel marries a beautiful girl, spends her little fortune, locks her up in a lunatic asylum (where she gives birth to a daughter), and is reported dead. Here is an opening for bigamy, which is accordingly committed. The unintentionally bigamous wife dies just when she would have inherited a large fortune, which descends to her daughter; and the scoundrel turns up, claiming his daughter, so that he may "manage" her property. Every device is employed by the girl's friends to keep her out of her father's hands; but at last he comes down upon her and her protectors with a writ of "habeas corpus." Here is a knot, complicated by an entanglement of love affairs, to be loosened by strong measures only. And very strong measures are taken: the girl, born in a lunatic asylum, has shown symptoms of mental and nervous derangement, and we know how murderous young ladies may become—consciously or unconsciously—when they are in a state of mental and nervous derangement, whether, like Lucy Ashton, they do violence to somebody they detest, or, like the heroine of this novel, to somebody they love.

Two very attractive, very interesting, very lovable girls, to say nothing of an admirable but lawless old "poacher," redeem from a charge of general "rowdiness" the novel entitled *Beside Still Waters*: by William Mackay (Remington and Co.), which, but for the three exceptions mentioned, together with one or two others subordinate in importance, would seem to be charged with a very disagreeable sort of Bohemianism, literary, dramatic, and other. It is a "smart" story, however, smartly written; but it proceeds for the most part on a low level. Both characters and events are chiefly of a commonplace and even sordid kind; there is a very brutal, drunken sort of murder; the atmosphere, too, often reeks with beer, brandy, and tobacco. The author seems to know the river Thames, in the neighbourhood of Walton or thereabout, like his alphabet; and his descriptions of scenes in which the river holds a prominent place are among the best parts of his book. If he were to try a higher flight, if he would soar into a purer and a less "beery" region, he would probably achieve something more creditable still. A reader cannot take intense interest in a drunken old sportsman, a "flash" tipster or dramatic reporter, a literary "swell" of poetic yearnings, silly "mashers" of Bohemian propensities, a conceited rustic barmaid bound to be "ruined" through her taste for flattery and

"diamonds," a pompous and vulgar old baronet, a stupid "vet" (that is, veterinary surgeon), and other equally ordinary or equally repulsive people. Nevertheless, a lively, trenchant style, and three good characters produce a decidedly buoyant effect.

Three women, two bad and one good—is that about the proper proportion?—share among them the greater part of the interest, which is not a little, appertaining to *The Unforeseen*: by Alice O'Hanlon (Chatto and Windus), a very superior kind of novel in three volumes, whether the conception and execution of the plot, or the studies of character, or the style of writing be the chief object of consideration. There is also a notable portrait of a gentleman, a man of noble presence, noble qualities, and noble conduct, stern, indeed, but strictly just, not at all sterner than the occasion required, and stern only from a sense of duty and justice, to the laceration of his own firm though affectionate heart. In the details of the story there is a great deal that is extravagant, improbable, almost incredible, and there is something melodramatic and sensational about the conclusion; but the coldly selfish girl and the fiercely ambitious woman—with the proper modifications in the latter case—are undoubtedly lifelike and true to nature. So also is the more heroic woman, who loved and suffered without compensation; but she is a less original and clever conception; she is almost too familiar a personage in the domain of romance. The scene is laid, first of all, in Canada; and that fact, with the very well described accessories, gives the charm of a certain freshness to the story.

Readers who like a rather complicated story, full of incident and with plenty of *dramatis personæ*, may be recommended to try *Love is Vanity*, by Emma Brewer (Bell and Sons). It would have been a better novel had there been less in it, for the family histories are somewhat perplexing, and incidents relating to subordinate characters have too much prominence. But there is no lack of invention; and, what with the machinations of a couple of villains, one of whom is transfigured in a tree and dies there; what with the perils of the heroine, who has to disguise herself as a peasant and as a nun; what with a storm at sea, a duel, a forgery, an imprisonment in France, an attempted murder, and a death from hydrophobia, it will be seen that the fare provided by the author is not meagre.

The Royal Humane Society has awarded its silver medal to Joseph White, for his gallant conduct at Ryhope, Seaham, on the 11th ult., when he saved the lives of six children who had allowed the incoming tide to cut off their retreat.

Some person has courteously sent us a copy of the *Christchurch (New Zealand) Telegraph*, of Sept. 22, from which we learn that Mr. George Augustus Sala gave on the previous evening, in the Oddfellows' Hall of that town, to a crowded audience, a lecture on Russia, being the first of a series. The reporter states that Mr. Sala has a strong voice, and speaks very clearly, so that not the slightest effort is required to hear him. He is, moreover, perfectly fluent. His manner is at first cold, and his style somewhat artificial, and it is not until he gets past the historical part of his subject, and into the flow of his own experiences, that he changes the close attention of his audience into warm sympathy and hearty approval. These once gained, however, he never lets them go again. His sketches of Russia, as he saw her in 1856, are graphic and amusing, and he gives evidence of having looked at her with an unprejudiced eye, although his visit was made just after the conclusion of the Crimean War.

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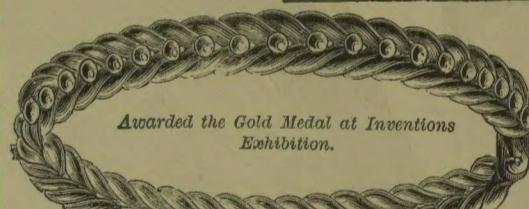
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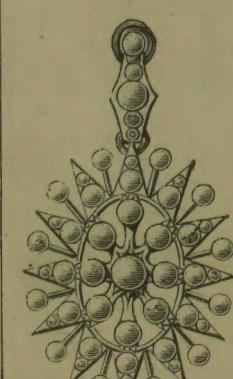
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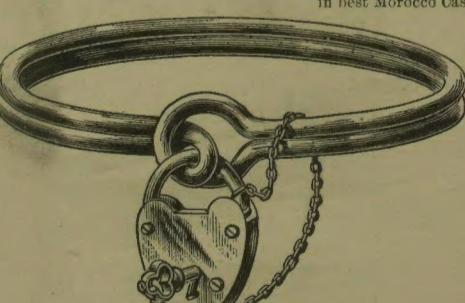
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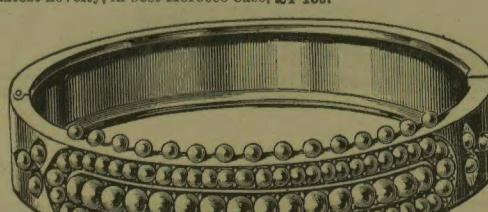


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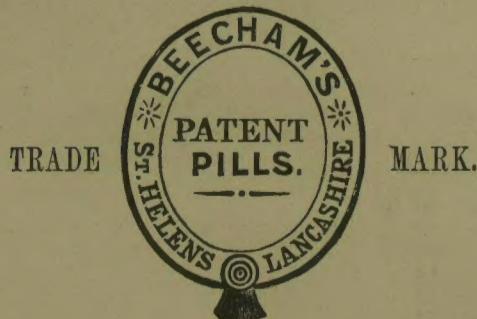


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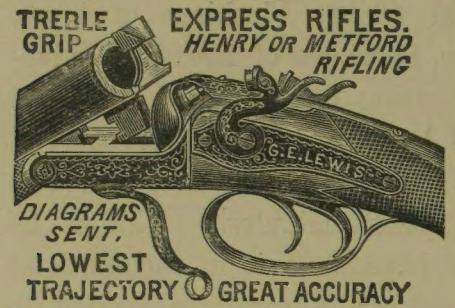
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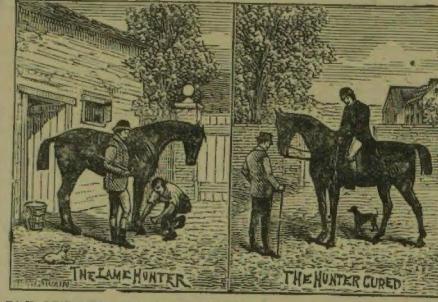
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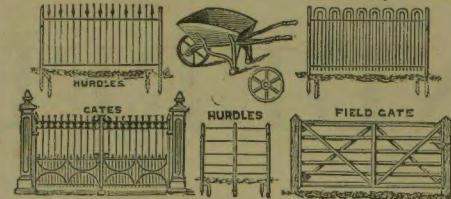
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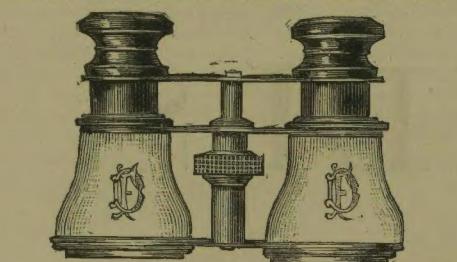


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